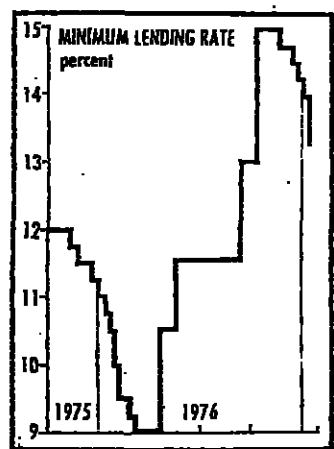


## Minimum lending rate cut opens way to cheaper overdrafts

A quarter percentage point cut in the Bank of England's minimum lending rate yesterday—down to 13 per cent—could lead to a reduction in interest rates. The fall, the fifth since last autumn, opens the way for the banks to cut overdraft interest. The move will also help building societies to hold mortgage rates.

## Lower interest charges heralded

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earlier this week that a full one percentage point cut in MLR was in prospect at yesterday's Treasury bill tender, the Bank signalled on several occasions that it desired a reduction of not more than a 1/2 percentage point.

Broadly this would be in line with the publicly stated views of both Mr Healey, the Chancellor, and the Prime Minister, that interest rates should be permitted to decline only gradually.

This is because there is still much uncertainty about the future course of the economy. If the forthcoming negotiations with the trade unions on phase three of pay restraint failed to achieve agreement, or if the deficit on the balance of payments was not eliminated as quickly as seems possible, then interest rates could have to be raised sharply, once again.

But the improvement in the economic environment in the last few weeks has prompted a widespread feeling that the way is now open for a rapid decline in interest rates. This is because it would encourage industrial investment and hence raise employment, as well as reducing the burden on the taxpayer of the burgeoning Government debt.

In some quarters it is also argued that the Government's money supply policy is now becoming excessively restrictive and could unnecessarily endanger economic growth in the future. On these grounds a lower level of interest rates is now desirable, according to this view.

## Price inflation creeps upward

The economic news last night, and yesterday's report from the Department of Employment, showed an upward creep in the rate of inflation. For the first time since the autumn of 1975, the index was falling very slowly.

The main reason for the acceleration between November and December from 14.2 per cent to 15.2 per cent in the annual rate over the most recent six months was that the index rose very slowly between May and June. The crude index of retail prices for all items rose 1.2 per cent in December and stood 15.1 per cent higher than in December, 1975. This is sometimes regarded as a standard measure of inflation; but it is unreliable because it includes changes in seasonally sensitive food prices and because a comparison over 12 months is slow to reveal a change in trend.

Both measures have, however, now converged on a rate just over 15 per cent, which is in line with the Treasury's forecast at the time of the Chancellor's statement last month on cuts in expenditure for the year 1977, namely a rise of 15 per cent between December, 1976, and December, 1977.



Prince Andrew gets the feel of the ski slopes at Cedar Mountain, Ontario, while out practising with the Lakefield College team.

## Mr Richard puts new plan to Mr Smith

From Michael Kuipe Salisbury, Jan 21

Mr Ivor Richard, the British chairman of the recessed Geneva conference on Rhodesia's future, had a two and a half hours meeting here today with Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister. When he emerged he said the discussions had been good and friendly. No decisions had been taken but he would be seeing Mr Smith again on Monday morning.

It is understood that Mr Smith displayed a marked change of attitude compared with that of his last meeting with Mr Richard in Salisbury on January 1, when there were heated exchanges. After a detailed discussion today of a five-page document containing Britain's proposals for a transitional government, paragraph by paragraph, Mr Richard asked the Rhodesian leader if he could describe the talks as friendly. Mr Smith replied, jokingly, with an obvious reference to the previous stormy meeting: "I thought you'd come in wearing a crash helmet."

The British proposals which were discussed are understood to involve a transitional government headed by a British resident commissioner who would hold a casting vote. There would be a council of ministers and a national security council and two thirds of the members of each would be black.

Mr Smith apparently raised what the British envoy regarded as sensible and legitimate points about the plan, including the envisaged relationship between the proposed council of ministers and the national security council and the powers of the proposed British resident commissioner. He was clearly concerned over whether the proposed national security council would be effective in maintaining law and order and there were

## Conservatives would not ban the closed shop, Mr Prior says

By Christopher Thomas

Closed shops would not be banned by a Conservative Government, Mr Prior, Opposition spokesman on employment, made clear yesterday. But in his severest criticism yet of closed shops he laid down five principles for a "code of practice" for individual rights.

Mr Prior said that agreements which required employees to join a trade union as a condition of service cast doubt on the voluntary nature of unions and threatened the individual's freedom of choice. The Conservatives were in general opposed to the whole concept of the closed shop.

But when union membership agreements were outlawed by the Industrial Relations Act they continued widely as tacit understandings. "The existence of such informal understandings is almost impossible to prove and invariably offers more scope for a real restriction of the right to work for individuals affected than would be the case if the closed shop were permitted but its operation regulated and limited."

Although the closed shop was objectionable in principle, it was not always unacceptably restrictive in practice. Union members felt strongly about "free riders" who accepted terms and conditions negotiated by unions but refused to pay for the service. But many people with strong views against union membership had been left in peace.

He added: "Equally, some account should be taken of the fact that many employers place great value on the order and efficiency provided in the conduct of their industrial relations by the closed shop."

Mr Prior said the Conservatives would seek to incorporate a charter of individual rights in a code of practice for the negotiation of closed shops which could form a model for those who wished to conclude union membership agreements and would be a protection for individuals at work.

## Decision by judges on Silkin role reserved

By Marcel Berlins Legal Correspondent

The Court of Appeal yesterday reserved judgment in the South African case, *Boycott v. Legal Aid*. Lord Denning said that it hoped to deliver it next week.

Legal argument yesterday, the fourth day of the hearing, was again concentrated on the main issue, whether an individual is entitled to come to the court for an injunction when the Attorney General has refused his consent for him to do so.

A temporary injunction banning two post office unions from boycotting postal services to South Africa was granted last Saturday on the application of Mr John Gouret, on behalf of the National Association for Freedom, who had been refused consent to bring the action by Mr Samuel Silkin, QC, the Attorney General.

The ban was designed to last only one week, ending tomorrow at midnight, and therefore by the time judgment is given that aspect of the case will have become academic. Mr Harry Woolf, Mr Silkin's junior counsel, said there could be no justification for continuing the injunction. But he made it clear that if the court's judgment was adverse to the Attorney General's position he would want to challenge it in the House of Lords.

## Sir Christopher has operation

Sir Christopher Soames, the former EEC Commissioner, underwent a heart operation in London yesterday in which three arteries were bypassed by vein graft. He is expected to leave hospital in about 12 days.

## 17 held over raids nine years ago

Seventeen men and women were detained for questioning by Scotland Yard's flying squad and regional crime squad officers in London and the Home Counties yesterday in connection with bank robberies nine years ago.

## Carter dodgers

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violence" are  
protection, page 5

## Mr Powell's warning against civil war over immigrants

By Craig Seton  
Civil war in Britain is in prospect because of the occupation of key areas in the heartlands of the kingdom by a growing population of New Commonwealth immigrants and their descendants, Mr Enoch Powell said last night.

In a speech on the scale of his "river of blood" warning in 1968, he spoke of the "impending catastrophe" and the likely effects on those who tried to speak of it when the new Race Relations Act came into force this year.

Mr Powell, addressing Stroudford Young Conservatives in Manchester, said that short of wholly new initiatives, the New Commonwealth immigrant and their descendants would continue to grow, absolutely and proportionately, until far into the next century.

Thus, of the two differentiated populations, "one will be advancing and the other retreating, both numerically and territorially."

He continued: "Thus, by our own past actions of commission and omission, we have set in motion the processes which will lead to a result equally catastrophic for both the host and the immigrant—descended populations and equally unwilling by both, who will be the prisoners and victims of their situation."

Mr Powell suggested the resort to physical violence, in the form of firearms or high explosives, was so probable as to be predicted with virtual certainty. Heroic measures would be needed to prevent a catastrophe, measures radically to alter the prospective pattern of the country's population.

## are threats to public schools

Mrs. Gordon  
opiano sales  
or snips this

## Egyptian search for riot scapegoats

The Egyptian Government's search for scapegoats after this week's riots continued, with the arrest of four student leaders, four prominent Egyptian journalists and a Leftist Party worker. But the real casualty of the riots was expected to be a politician, with the most likely candidate Mr Abdul Kassisouni, a deputy Prime Minister, who advocated the food price rises that led to the riots. Page 4

## Abortion Bill passed

A liberal abortion Bill, strongly opposed by the Roman Catholic Church, gained a narrow majority in the Italian Chamber of Deputies yesterday. To become law it still needs the approval of the Senate where the outcome is uncertain. Page 3

## Lukewarm 'yes' vote

If a vote for Britain's membership of the European Community were conducted now, only a tiny majority would be in favour, an EEC survey concludes. Nearly half of those interviewed in Britain think the country would be better off by "going it alone". Page 4

## Government-union pay talks to open

Mr Healey, the Chancellor, and trade union leaders are to meet on Tuesday week to open discussions about what is to happen after the present pay policy expires in July. Mr John Mervin, CBI director-general, said last night that the next phase of the policy was likely to involve smaller rises than those agreed in the present phase. Page 2

## Legal aid: Proceedings have been brought against the Home Office over regulations governing the level of payments

Water Bill: MPs voting for constituency reasons rather than a party cause could defeat the water charges Bill. Page 2

## Tories consulted: Top civil servants are to discuss with the Conservative Party their association's proposed affiliation to the TUC

Bonn: Herr Schmidt, a chastened West German Chancellor, learns the links of his authority. Page 3

## Brussels: The European Commission reacts sharply to British subsidy for pig farmers

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## passengers at d advocated

of passengers using Stansted should be increased from 10 million a year, the South-  
Planning Council recom-  
s that it could be done with  
an expansion, but does not  
stantial enlargement. Page 3

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George Hutchinson gives a warning to the Tory Jeremiahs; Frank Eggleston on oysters for all; Geoffrey Green talks to Alex Stock; Ned Chaillet on President Carter's inaugural spectacular. Leader page, 13

## Letters: On rejecting the monetarist remedy, from Mr Reginald Maudling; MP; and on the union of the Churches, from Mr Paul Tyler and the Rev Frank Hargreaves

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John Higgins talks to Maximilian Schell, in an exclusive interview, about his directing debut at the National Theatre; Stanley Sadie reviews Handel's *Giulio Cesare*.  
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Professor Gladys Torguet

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## HOME NEWS

# Union chiefs to meet Mr Healey for talks on wages policy

By Christopher Thomas

Trade union leaders will meet Mr Healey, the Chancellor, on Tuesday week to open discussions about wages policy after the present phase ends in July.

With the public sector unions growing increasingly restive about the continuation of the social contract, and with the virtual certainty that the TUC will want a special conference on the matter, Mr Healey is unlikely to get any firm guidance in time for his spring Budget.

The Confederation of British Industry has indicated to the Chancellor recently the need for some flexibility in productivity bargaining. The unions, impatient with two years of severe restraints, are looking for measures that will be acceptable to the rank and file.

Mr John Methven, director-general of the CBI called last night for the introduction of policies that could reduce inflation to 5 per cent by the middle of next year. That would mean limiting pay demands and the growth of money supply, he said.

There had to be a pay policy after July. If present pay pressures were met just to restore differentials and to consolidate the earnings supplements, that would add more than a fifth to the nation's pay.

There is no way in which

all these pressures can be met after next July without a pay explosion.

Mr Methven made clear that in his view pay rises after July were "likely to be smaller than those for the current pay year".

He advocated a monetary expansion target for the year from next summer of about a tenth and said that taxation, a percentage of national output, should be reduced by five percentage points over a period of not more than five years.

Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union and principal architect of the pay accord with the Government, placed himself firmly in alliance with the Government's economic approach yesterday, maintaining that the "much attacked" pay policies had played a big part in getting Britain back to stability.

Two years ago there could have been a coup in Britain and the fear of hyper-inflation was strong, he said in Glasgow. There was talk of the end of democracy. But the unions and progressive managers had understood and met the needs of the hour.

It seems likely that Mr Jones will support a further period of wage restraint, but in several of the big unions there is open hostility to any more severe curbs.

## Guillotine on devolution under threat

By David Leigh

The Liberals hope to force the Government to put proportionate representation into the devolution Bill next week.

Mr Alan Beith, Liberal chief whip, said in Newcastle last night: "The fact that Liberals believe in the need for Scottish and Welsh parliaments will not induce us to help the Government in pushing the devolution Bill through Parliament unchanged."

The Liberal MPs say they will not vote for the guillotine the Government will inevitably need unless they get a concession on proportional representation. Some are also disinclined to vote for the Bill's third reading unless something has been gained.

Ministers insist that they will not give the Liberals proportional representation. But the balance of forces at Westminster will be more alarming for the Government's guillotine hopes than it was for the devolution Bill's second reading, when the Government majority was 45.

Early attempts by Labour business managers to get an agreed timetable with opposition parties foundered quickly.

## An incitement to hatred, minority leaders protest

By Penny Symon

West Indian and Asian community leaders reacted with horror last night to Mr Powell's speech, which they described as incitement to racial hatred.

The Standing Conference of Pakistani Organizations has sent a telegram to Mr Siskin, the Attorney General, asking him to initiate a prosecution against Mr Powell, or to give permission to the conference to start a private prosecution.

An emergency meeting of the conference's executive committee will take place in London tomorrow to discuss the speech. Mr Siskin said that Mr Powell was making a desperate effort to stir up racial hatred, and particularly on this occasion there was a serious basis for the Attorney General to be satisfied that this was Mr Powell's intention.

He added: "If he is not prosecuted, it will be an encouragement to others, and we shall soon have racial violence on our hands, as happened last summer."

The Conservative Party had once again provided a platform from where Mr Powell could advocate his dangerous views, he said. "If the law of the land is to be upheld, then he must be prosecuted."

Mr William Grant, secretary of the West Indian Standing Conference, said that he found it difficult to understand why Mr Powell continued to use this type of language, which would incite sections of the community.

"It seems that this speech is more serious than anything he has done before, and we deeply regret it," he said. "It is necessary to refer it to the Attorney General with a view to possible action being taken over incitement to racial hatred. He is trying to stir up feelings of hatred among a backward, neutral people. It is deplorable."

Mr Grant added that he thought Mr Powell would have to be more careful about what he said in the future.

He added: "He probably realizes that and is making this speech just before the new Act comes in."

Mr Mark Bonham Carter, chairman of the Community Relations Commission, said that it was a disgraceful speech.

The speech will also be discussed tomorrow by the Standing Conference of Asian Organizations, meeting in Leicester.

## MP attacks Press Council

The Press Council was condemned yesterday by Mrs Maureen Colquhoun, Labour MP for Northampton, North, as a partisan body ineffectual in protecting the rights of the individual. She told the Royal Commission on the Press that the council presented a dangerous illusion of impartiality, while its interests were clearly bound up with those of the newspaper industry.

Mrs Colquhoun was giving evidence at her own request. Last month the Press Council rejected a complaint by her that the *Daily Mail* had intruded into her privacy by publishing gossip column articles about the break-up of her marriage, although it upheld her complaint that the newspaper was unjustified in its methods of investigation.

Mrs Colquhoun maintained that the Press Council, in its present form, could only be damaging to the individual and that the treatment of her own case marked a regression in a person's right to privacy.

Lord Shawcross, chairman of the Press Council, said last night: "I regard Mrs Colquhoun as a somewhat partisan person and do not propose to comment on anything she says."

## 'Uniform of colour an irresistible force for discipline'

Continued from page 1

and superseded by those who were less squeamish.

Referring to Gresham's law of extremity, that the more extreme drive out the less extreme, he said that was one of the basic rules operating in this field, with the corollary that no political power existed without being used.

He went on: "Both the general law and its Gresham's corollary point to contemporary circumstances, towards the resort to physical violence, in the form of firearms or high explosive, as being so probable as to be predicted with virtual certainty."

The experience of the last decade around the world had shown that violence, however irrational or inappropriate their targets, precipitated a frenzied search by the society attacked to discover and remedy more and more grievous real or imagined wrongs among those from whom the violence was supposed to emanate: or on whose behalf it was supposed to be exercised.

"Just a few thugs, a few shots, and a few bombs at the right place and time, and that is enough to engender disproportionate consequences to follow."

Differentiation by colour, among other things, was a permanent and involuntary uniform, which performed all and more of the functions of a uniform, and which was visible to all eyes, and making it possible to see at a glance what was happening and where to render assistance and where to attack.

He continued: "Moreover, the uniform of colour, because it is involuntary and irremovable, becomes an irresistible force for dominating and disciplining those who wear it. They are literally marked people, expected to rally to whatever is designated as their cause and to follow its lead, whatever it may be, to the end of their lives."

Witnessing how the invisible uniform of religion enabled the IRA to exert over the mass of peaceful and law-abiding Roman Catholic citizens in Northern Ireland a terror and compulsion far more severe than that under which their Protestant fellow citizens lived, "one can form some idea of the consolidating potential of the visible uniform of colour."

Colour, he said, polarized and reinforced differentiation and segregation because the individual was identified and eventually obliged to identify himself with the minority to which he belonged. Colour is a recruiting sergeant, and a recruiting sergeant for officer material.

In a series of bitter references to section 70 (Incitement to Racial Hatred) of the Race Relations Act, 1976, the provisions of which are not yet in force, Mr Powell said that until now there had been no essential bulwark against suppression of free speech and of open debate on the nature and reality of the public danger to which he referred.

That had been the necessity for those who aimed at suppression to prove evil intent; and it was inherently unlikely that any subject of public anxiety or apprehension could be discussed without touching on strong feelings, fears, antagonisms and emotions.

He added: "If expression of

## Labour MP criticizes 'doctrinaire' NEC

By Our Political Correspondent

The national executive committee of the Labour Party was bitterly criticized last night for its opposition to government policies.

Mr Ian Wigglesworth, MP for Teesside, Thornaby, and secretary of the parliamentary party, said in a speech to the Northallerton Labour Party: "We want an NEC that will help the Government when it is down, not kick it."

In a direct reference to the appointment of Mr Andrew ("Andy") Bevan, a Trotskyist as organizer of the party's youth movement, he said: "We want an NEC that will not appoint opponents of parliamentary democracy as officers of the party; an executive that will respond to legitimate trade union demands from its own staff; and that will put an end to the sheer incompetence of recent times."

Mr Wigglesworth said he shared the concern of other MPs about the growing influence of the extreme left in the party. "There has been a growth of intolerance and of the divisive jargon of class warfare in the party, exemplified at last year's annual conference, which has done the party a lot of damage."

"I do not think our response should be to seek some form of political realignment. I think those of us who are opposed to such tendencies should seek vigorously to rebut them, to reform the party, to build it up into a modern movement reflecting the mood of the great mass of centre and left opinion."

"We should seek the support of those who want reform, not revolution, and end the narrow, doctrinaire irrelevances of the unrepresentative minority at present controlling the party, who spend much of their time attacking and embarrassing both the Government and the TUC."

## 500 constituents back MP under attack

A petition signed by 500 constituents in Hayes and Harlington has been sent to the Prime Minister as an indication of support for the Labour MP for the west London seat. Mr Neville Sandelson, who is under attack from Tory MPs, said the petition was a "realistic and necessary action".

The petition, which was organized by five long-standing members of the Labour Party in Hayes, was passed on by Mr Sandelson to Mr Reginald Underhill, a representative of the party's national agent at Transport House.

Mr Sandelson faces a special meeting of his general management committee tomorrow which is to decide whether he will be the party's candidate in Hayes at the next general election.

## Public Order Act amended by new section

being a report which is published contemporaneously with those proceedings or, if it is not reasonably practicable to publish it contemporaneously, is published as soon as publication is reasonably practicable; and (if previously unlawful) lawful:

(a) a fair and accurate report of proceedings in Parliament;

(b) any proceedings for an offence under this section alleged to have been committed by the publication or distribution of any written matter, it shall be a defence to prove that the person publishing or distributing it was not aware of the content of the written matter in question and neither suspected nor had reason to suspect it of being threatening, abusive or insulting;

(4) Subsection (3) above shall not be a defence if it is proved to a person charged with an offence under this section to raise a defence under that subsection;

(5) A person guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable—

(a) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to a fine not exceeding £400, or both;

(b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to a fine, or both;

but no prosecution for such an offence shall be instituted in England and Wales except by or with the consent of the Attorney General.

(6) This section "publish" and "distribute" mean publish or distribute to the public at large or to any section of the public not consisting exclusively of members of an association of which the person publishing or distributing a matter is a member; "written matter" means a group of persons defined by reference to colour, race, religion or ethnic or national origins; and "written matter" includes any writing, sign or visible representation.

He referred to the Christmas

Day sermon of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who had said: "We can view the man with a coloured face as a threat... but we can think of it very differently as a man with a different colour from our own. It could be an enrichment to my life and that of my neighbours."

## MPs' revolt could defeat water charges Bill

By George Clark

Political Correspondent

MPs who vote for constituency reasons rather than for a party cause could defeat the Water Charges Equalization Bill on second reading in the Commons on Monday.

The Conservatives and Liberals, because of disagreements within their parties, are allowing a free vote and the Government is not imposing a three-line whip.

Ministers have received warnings from Labour MPs representing cities and highly populated areas that they will refuse to support the Bill, or vote against. Those MPs argue that while there is some justice in transferring part of the cost of investment in water supplies from the rural areas to the towns, the increase in the water rates in most conurbations is not justified.

Mr Howell, Minister of State (Sport and Water Resources) has been attempting over the past few weeks to persuade Labour backbenchers of the fairness of the scheme.

His basic argument, supported by the drought last year, is that if there is to be a transfer of water from Wales and other areas to the cities the cost of investing in storage facilities should be evenly spread.

He argues that the Bill must be seen as a stage towards the nationalization of all water supplies, to which the Labour party has been committed for many years, and towards the creation of a national water grid.

That allegation was denied by his widow, Mrs Mary McHugh.

In a speech to the Northern Ireland chamber of commerce Mr Mason, Secretary of State, emphasized that there would be no withdrawal from Ulster.

"The troops will stay as long as they are needed and we will continue to tighten the net around those who organize and carry out these plans," he said.

MPs criticized: A recent tour of Northern Ireland by a group of Labour MPs, supporting the Troops Out Movement, provoked a propaganda for the Provisional IRA. Mr John Biggs-Darison, Tory front bench spokesman on Ulster, said yesterday at Birmingham University (the Press Association reports).

## Cancer risk feared in raw material to make plastics

By Pearce Wright

Science Editor

Doubts have arisen over the safety of a raw material widely used in making many synthetic fibres, films for packaging and plastic containers. A report of interim research into acrylonitrile monomer (vinyl cyanide) suggests a long-term cancer risk.

First details of the work are contained in the current issue of *European Chemical News*, which also reports that European producers of the agent are meeting to consider any necessary action.

The Health and Safety Executive has issued a warning to industrial workers after tests based on feeding drinking water to

The research in America was organized by the Manufacturing Chemists' Association on behalf of nine companies. The study is being conducted at the toxicology research laboratory of the Dow Chemical company.

Diets containing acrylonitrile have produced higher incidence than normal of subcutaneous masses in the mammary region (not diagnosed definitely as malignant tumours), a similarly higher incidence of changes of the ear canal, proliferative lesions of the brain, changes to the lining of the stomach and other conditions.

The Health and Safety Executive indicated last night that some safety warnings were already issued for handling acrylonitrile. It is a recognized poison, a harmful irritant vapour. Action if the poison is taken by mouth is the same as for other cyanides.

Day sermon of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who had said: "We can view the man with a coloured face as a threat... but we can think of it very differently as a man with a different colour from our own. It could be an enrichment to my life and that of my neighbours."

Mr Powell said he was sure there was nothing further from the archbishop's intention than to be insulting or stir up hatred, "but in my view his words were profoundly insulting to all those of a different colour from our own, and to those of a different religion, and to those of a different descent and those of a different language."

"By talking about the consequences of two million New Commonwealth immigrants in England in terms of a single individual and thus ignoring all the facts and circumstances of the real situation, his Grace and those who speak as he does use the language most calculated to stir people to frenzy."

"To tell the indigenous inhabitants of Brixton or Southall or Leicester or Bradford or Birmingham or Wolverhampton, that the pensioners ending their days in streets of nightly terror unrecognizable as their former neighbourhoods, to tell the people of towns and cities where whole districts have been transformed into ghettos of foreign lands, that 'the man with a coloured face' could be an enrichment to my life and that of my neighbours' is to drive them beyond the limits of their endurance."

"It is not so much that it is obvious cowardice. It is that it makes a cruel mockery of the experiences and fears of hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of ordinary decent men and women."

Police guard: A police guard of about 20 surrounded Stretford Civic Theatre before Mr Powell arrived, and an invited audience of 300 heard his speech and gave it moderate applause (A Staff Correspondent writes from Manchester).

There was a demonstration by about 20 young men standing behind police barriers, as the audience, invited by Stretford Young Conservatives, arrived.

Mr John Gregory, spokesman for the Young Conservatives, said the decision to invite Mr Powell had been taken by a 12-5 vote last August. Mr David Bowers, vice-chairman, said that the Young Conservatives did not agree with Mr Powell's views. "We do not support his opinions on race."

That allegation was denied by his widow, Mrs Mary McHugh.

In a speech to the Northern Ireland chamber of commerce Mr Mason, Secretary of State, emphasized that there would be no withdrawal from Ulster.

## MPs to raise secret Ulster memo in Commons

From a Staff Reporter

Belfast

Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Ulster, will be questioned at Westminster next week about a "ministerial direction" to safeguard the jobs of alleged Provisional IRA men working on Northern Ireland Housing Executive schemes in Belfast.

The matter arises from a confidential Northern Ireland Housing Executive memorandum allegedly written during the early part of the Provisional IRA ceasefire in February, 1975.

The document is in the hands of the Rev Jan Paisley, Ulster Unionist MP for Antrim, North. He has tabled several questions on it to Mr Mason.

Questions on the same subject concerning a minister of state in the Northern Ireland Office have also been tabled by Mr John Carson, UUUC MP for Belfast, North.

In the past Mr Paisley has embarrassed the Government with official documents leaked to him by a Stormont source. At one point, a police investigation was ordered in an effort to find the security breach.

Mr Paisley will ask why a government minister allegedly gave a direction "to spare no effort in safeguarding the jobs of alleged Provisional IRA men working on housing executive schemes in Belfast". He will also question in what way the keeping of Provisional IRA men in the executive's employment had to do with the negotiation of the Provisional IRA ceasefire.

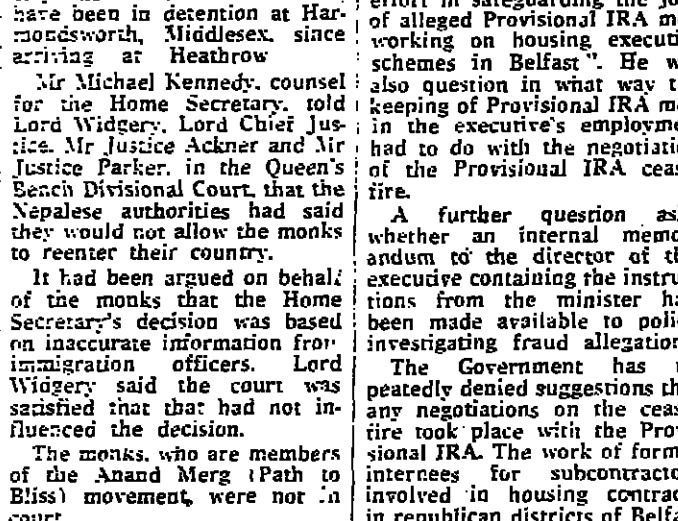
A further question asks whether an internal memorandum to the director of the executive containing the instructions from the minister had been made available to police investigating fraud allegations.

The Government has repeatedly denied suggestions that any negotiations on the ceasefire took place with the Provisional IRA. The work of former intermediaries for subcontractors involved in housing contracts in republican districts of Belfast has been the subject of controversy on several occasions.

The Northern Ireland Office refused last night to comment on the questions or on a local radio report alleging that a minister had been involved in covering up indirect funding of the IRA. "We will not be saying anything on this until the parliamentary questions are answered."

## Weather forecast and recordings

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars. FRONTS Warm, Cold, Occluded (Symbols are on an advancing edge)



## Bread talks fail

The bread delivery men's union, the United Road Transport Union, and the Bakers' Federation failed to agree yesterday after six hours of talks on the price dispute, but both sides said they would give "urgent consideration" to finding a solution.

## Today

Sun rises: 7.53 am	Sun sets: 4.32 pm
Moon rises: 8.52 am	Moon sets: 8.30 pm
First quarter: January 27	
Lighting up: 5.2 pm to 7.22 am	
High water: London Bridge, 3.24 am, 7.2m (23.7ft); 3.50 pm, 7.4m (24.4ft)	
Low water: 12.47 pm, 6.8m (22.6ft); 12.47 pm, 6.8m (22.6ft)	
Hull, 8.39 am, 7.1m (23.2ft); 8.39 pm, 7.3m (24.1ft)	
Liverpool, 12.46 am, 9.3m (30.4ft); 1.2 pm, 9.6m (31.6ft)	

## Tomorrow

Sun rises: 7.52 am	Sun sets: 4.34 pm
Moon rises: 9.16 am	Moon sets: 9.39 pm
Lighting up: 5.4 pm to 7.20 am	
High water: London Bridge, 4.2 am, 7.3m (24.0ft); 4.28 pm, 7.4m (24.2ft)	
Low water: 13.5m (44.3ft); 9.57 pm, 13.0m (42.6ft)	
Dover, 1.4 am, 7.0m (22.8ft); 1.28 pm, 6.6m (21.7ft)	
Hull, 8.39 am, 7.1m (23.2ft); 8.39 pm, 7.3m (24.1ft)	
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Pressure will remain low to NW of the British Isles with a trough of low pressure moving NE across S districts.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight: London: E, Midlands: E, East Anglia: SE, NW, Central N, NE, England: E, bright at first, scattered showers, becoming cloudy with rain later; wind SW backing S, moderate or fresh; max temp 8°C (46°F).

W Midlands, Wales, Channel Islands, Central S, SW England: Rather cloudy, outbreaks of rain clearing later; wind S or SW, fresh or strong; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Lake District: Isle of Man: Borders, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: sunny intervals and showers, becoming cloudy with more general rain later; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 8°C (46°F).

Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, NW Scotland: Showers and sunny intervals cloudy later; wind S, strong; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Overseas selling prices: Australia: 80, 100, 120, 140, 160, 180, 200, 220, 240, 260, 280, 300, 320, 340, 360, 380, 400, 420, 440, 460, 480, 500, 520, 540, 560, 580, 600, 620, 640, 660, 680, 700, 720, 740, 760, 780, 800, 820, 840, 860, 880, 900, 920, 940, 960, 980, 1000.

## Home Office sued over pay legal aid

By Diana Geddes

Legal proceedings brought against the Home Office over the regulation of the level of payments to barristers and solicitors for legal aid cases.

The Law Society's Council fear that pending appeals over legal aid will constitute a strict interpretation of those regulations will not permit "fair" for work actually done as required by the Criminal Justice Act 1968.

The named plaintiff acting as representative Law Society and 1 respectively.

The 1968 regulations under the provisions of the 1967 Act, contain fees and expenses payable to barristers and solicitors for criminal legal aid present maxima are those laid down in daily rate for a solicitor's court in a Crown Court maximum fee of £64.50.

In practice, usually well above that. It is because the criminal legal aid system is used in the regulations which ignore it where they can "owing to exceptional" circumstances the sums paid do not provide fair remuneration for work actually done.

Mr Justice Styan is awaiting the decision of the House of Lords on the appeal. The House of Lords is expected to give its decision in the next few weeks.

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## The Queen's ear

The Queen's jubilee by *The Sunday Times*. With the serialization Robert Lacey's biography.

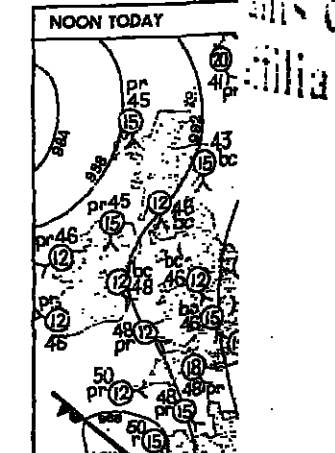
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## Tomorrow

Clouds: 75%  
 Temp. (air): 52°F. min.  
 am, 6°C (43°F). Humid  
 79 per cent. Rain. 24h  
 0.02in. Sun. 24hr to 6  
 Bar. mean sea level, 6  
 millibars, steady.  
 1.000 millibars = 29.53in

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**Overseas selling prices**  
 Austria, Sch 17; Belgia  
 Caracoles, Pes 45; Denmark  
 Finland, Fmk 10; France,  
 Inc. 1741; Germany,  
 DM 10; Greece, Dr 100;  
 Italy, Lit 500; Luxemburg  
 Maastricht, Esc 200; Norway,  
 Nkr 10; Portugal, Esc 200;  
 Spain, Pes 40; Sweden  
 Zealand, Kr 100;  
 Yugoslavia, Din 20.



## HOME NEWS



Model of the Irish State Coach, made from 20,000 Lego bricks, at the British Toy and Hobby which opened at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham yesterday.

## ti-Lords' ng s Labour s' plan

A Clark Correspondent peers, having had crings to discuss the of putting forward recommendations for the House of Lords, ded that the "anti-ling in the Labour strong that it is not them to submit any

ar that the party's executive, on the dation of the home ministe, chaired by vood Benn, Secretary r Energy, will decide bition of the Lords official party policy r general election.

ve little doubt that at party conference tion will get the two rty necessary for it ded in the manifesto.

Labour peers' discus appears to have e support for Mr w that the revising of the Lords could il be undertaken by e chosen from House s members.

ar the party will be corral disadvantage. ey know that Mrs and her advisers in led by Lord Carrin-roducing a plan for fucing the power of ary peers and intro-ected element, ld have popular

a self-deception, but e Labour men and the upper House believe that "every-ord".

als, led by Lord ase their manifesto a those worked out y group put up by Richard Crossman, ed in 1968, provid-ramework for the (No 2) Bill, which ally defeated by a Conservative and s-benchers in the

and record civil servants consult Conservative

ers over affiliation to the TUC

emneasy Division Associa- represents 10,000 us in the highest hiteball, is in hve s with Conservative assess Shadow- tion to its proposed ick the TUC. ons, will also be the Labour and jec- ciation's executive icided last month ad affiliation. It is il Service staff aso- ide the TUC. should senior. Con- pose such a move- ight have to its position. The represents officials most closely with id a future Conserv- ment might sus- id traditional poli- y of the Civil ben impaired by jon. Flanagan, chairman

## Plan for four million to use Stansted airport

By Robert Parker

A recommendation that Stansted airport, Essex, should handle four million passengers a year, instead of the present 250,000, was made by the South-East Economic Planning Council yesterday.

In a letter to Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, Lord Porchester, chairman of the council, said he thought that would be the best way of coping with the growth in the number of airline passengers in the South-east. It could be done without much expansion of facilities at Stansted.

The council did not rule out massive expansion there, but told Mr Dell that it still believed a new airport at Mapiin was the best way ultimately of relieving pressure on the London airports.

The council's views are based on an examination of two con-sultative documents on airport policy in Britain that have been circulated.

Princess Anne fined £40 for speeding

Princess Anne was fined £40 by magistrates at Abreton, Derbyshire, yesterday for speeding on the M1 motorway before Christmas. The court was told that she was fined at just over 96 mph.

Princess Anne, who was charged in the name of Mrs Mark Phillips, did not appear in court and pleaded guilty through a local solicitor. Her licence was endorsed.

Mr Arthur Willis, for the defence, said Princess Anne did not dispute the facts. He added: "At the time of the offence the motorway was as clear as you could ever expect it to be on this stretch. Her Royal Highness wishes to apologise to the public for the delay having occurred and apologies to the court."

The court was told that Princess Anne's licence had no previous endorsements. Mr Willis asked for 14 days to pay, which was granted. The fine carries a maximum fine of £100.

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## Demand for Labour to dismantle Treasury

The Labour Party should rid itself of the Treasury, which had almost broken its power, Mr Norman Atkinson, the new party treasurer, said in the Commons yesterday.

There was a surprising lack of reaction to his remarks from the fellow Labour MPs and the even smaller number of Conservatives in the Chamber.

Mr Atkinson, MP for Harin-gay, Tottenham, was speaking in a debate on the guidelines for the National Enterprise Board. He said there was an absolute necessity to create an economic directorate in Britain.

In the Labour Party manifesto for the next election, he said, he wanted to see a commitment that it would "dis-mantle the Treasury" and have different organisations in Britain, with a different allocation of resources.

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## Film censors may offer 'PG' tips to parents

By Kenneth Gosling

New ways of classifying films, including the possible replace-ment by censors of the "A" certificate with one designated "PG" (parental guidance), were discussed in London yesterday.

It was also suggested, at the meeting of the recently recon-stituted Cinema Consultative Committee, that an element of certification according to age of intended audience might be introduced. An advisory sub-committee will examine whether it would be sensible to categorize films on a four-item scale: "U" (as now), "PG", "16", and "18", the last two indicating the minimum ages at which people would be admitted to the cinema.

The board's view was that the "U" and "X" categories are perfectly clear, but that there was some lack of clarity in the public mind about the meaning of the "A" certificate, which allows any child to see the film

so described but advises parents that some material could be unsuitable.

There was some question whether parents made use of the advice, and it was in that context that it was suggested that a "PG" certificate might replace the "A".

The advisory subcommittee will examine such matters in detail and report to a full meeting of the committee in six months' time.

The meeting, presided over by Lord Hailsham, president of the British Board of Film Censors, and attended by local authority and film industry representatives, with two Home Office observers, heard the view expressed that many adult films watch now into the "X" category would be suitable for 16-year-olds.

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## WEST EUROPE

## New mood of Mr Callaghan's guest from Germany

## Chastened Chancellor learns the limits of his authority

From Dan van der Vat

Bonn, Jan 21

Mr Callaghan's weekend, guest at Chequers, Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, has discovered the limits of his authority since the two leaders last met there in October.

At that time, Herr Schmidt had just been elected to office with a narrow but workable majority. That the ruling coalition of Social Democrats (SPD) and Free Democrats (FDP) won the election at all is due in the first instance to his own personality.

His party, the SPD, therefore owes him more than he owes it. But the purely successful "presidential" campaign distracted attention from the internal disputes, declining morale and paralysis in the SPD which it now seems only a complete defeat can begin to resolve.

Herr Willy Brandt, the party chairman, who was elected as Chancellor in favour of Herr Schmidt in 1974, seems to have gone into orbit. As newly-elected chairman of the Socialist International, he spends much of his time encouraging fellow socialists in Portugal and elsewhere, and rebuking communist governments for badgering dissidents.

Although he remains a useful shield for Herr Schmidt against the SPD left, he is not the man to revitalize the SPD and impose upon it the flexibility it badly needs. He is a badly divided man, and thus keep in office as Chancellor the man who remains the best one for the job.

Yet in the past few weeks, which seem to have been an all-time personal low in Herr Schmidt's career, there has been open speculation in Bonn

that Herr Brandt would soon have to be recalled to power as Chancellor.

The reasoning was that Herr Schmidt had suffered so much damage to his prestige over the pensions fiasco that he would be forced to give up. Since there was no obvious successor to him Herr Brandt would have to be recalled as a "Pop John" figure, it was suggested.

When Herr Brandt began to decline as Chancellor, Herr Schmidt was the obvious and only heir. The fact that there is no crown prince now is one of the most serious weaknesses of the SPD.

Reliable sources say that Herr Schmidt was genuinely astonished by the public reaction to the government proposal to renege on an election promise to raise pensions by 10 per cent in July because of the cash crisis in the pension system. Observers were equally astonished that such a skilled politician could make such an elementary howler. Had Herr Schmidt lost his touch?

After a long period of uncertainty, during which he took a badly needed holiday, the Chancellor has begun to fight back. His speech in the Bundestag today, for example, during the debate on his policy statement for the new administration, contained the old wit and razor-sharp rhetoric so absent in recent weeks.

Herr Schmidt's impatience with people who think more slowly than himself or raise objections which strike him as petty has made way for a new readiness to listen. Instead of laying down the law at this week's SPD parliamentary party meeting, deputies were surprised and pleased to see him anxious to conciliate.

The Chancellor's famous index finger, which he was

always portrayed as waving in the faces of leaders of friendly countries with bigger problems than West Germany's, is no longer on view. Signor Andre-otti, the Italian Prime Minister, received no schoolmasterly lectures when he was in Bonn this week. Instead, he encountered a wave of warmth and sympathy.

Perhaps because the Government cannot now afford expensive social reforms, Herr Schmidt has begun to attack what he calls the lack of warmth in West German society.

West Germany has coped better than any other Western country with the recession under his leadership, but even this economy cannot go it alone.

What country in Europe has a huge budget deficit, a severely strained social security system, more than a million unemployed. A lack of will to invest in industry, a growing immigrant problem and has recently put up spirit and tobacco taxes to raise more funds?

The answer is West Germany. Although no further relevant comparison with the plight of Britain is possible because West Germany can live for a long time yet on accumulated fat, it does mean that Herr Schmidt is much better placed, as well as more inclined to see and understand Mr Callaghan's problems in all their complexity than he was last year, even though there was no lack of sympathy then.

The Chancellor is not to be written off as a spent force. He comes to Britain battered but not beaten, sobered by the discovery that there is only so much he can do, constrained by his Government's economically imposed lack of room for manoeuvre, but determined to find new challenges for his returning energy.

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## WEST EUROPE

## Narrow majority for Italian abortion Bill

From Peter Nichols

Rome, Jan 21

The Chamber of Deputies tonight approved by a narrow majority a Bill permitting abortion. If it is passed by the Senate as well, it will introduce abortion for the first time to the Italian statute book.

The voting was 310 in favour to 296 against with one abstention. The governing Christian Democrats as well as the extreme right opposed the Bill.

The Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano tonight condemned the measure as "practically adopting the slogan of free abortion at the expense of the state".

The hierarchy, including the Pope himself, have maintained a strong campaign against the passage of the Bill. The majority in its favour in the Senate is narrower than that in the Chamber.

The Bill is remarkably liberal even if it does not fulfill the wishes of the Radicals and others who were pressing for abortion on demand.

It would allow a woman to decide to terminate her pregnancy within the first 90 days if there should be serious danger to her physical or mental health, or for economic, social or family reasons.

A termination would also be permitted at this stage in cases of rape and incest, or if there should be dangers of a malformed child. After 90 days an abortion could be performed only if there was a danger to the woman's life or grave danger to her health.

Doctors and medical staff would be able to object on grounds of conscience to performing or assisting at abortions.

Girls of 16 and 17 are treated in the same way as adults. In cases involving girls under 16, the doctor would have to refer to the responsible parent or guardian.

The Bill makes the local authorities responsible for seeing that abortion is not used as a means of birth control. The Bill includes penalties for abortions carried out without the consent of the woman or outside the limits laid down by the Bill. Punishment varies from two months to four years in prison.

Lisbon hint to Europe on full membership

From Our Own Correspondent

Lisbon, Jan 21

The Portuguese Government has reacted swiftly to reports of some doubts among the Nine over its suitability for eventual full membership of the European Community.

Dr José Medeiros Ferreira, the Foreign Minister, today indicated that his country does not want to be a kind of poor relation of the EEC.

In an interview with O Dia, the conservative Lisbon daily, he said that the idea, attributed to the Belgians, that Portugal might be accorded an intermediary status between associated and full membership was not acceptable.

For the ultimate in outdoor warmth and comfort, who can deny the sheep its greatest triumph, its own personal choice of winter outer-wear? Here, undeniably science has failed to come anywhere near the natural sheepskin coat for total wind-cheating warmth and all over snug protection.

Normally these days a very expensive luxury I can offer you value in genuine British-made sheepskin coats that is second to none. Classically styled in a deep-plee white wool with brown skin exterior we have insisted that our manufacturers carry on where nature left off: nothing is left to chance. The pockets are deep and warmly lined, the leather buttons riveted on, the buttonholes double-layered, double stitched and unbreakable. The seams are overstitched and the generous stand-up collar and shaped lapels are edged.

The crucial part is the assessment of progress made so far in the implementation of the Helsinki agreement on which the West is bound to differ sharply from the Soviet block. It is potentially an explosive argument.

An extensive dossier has been built up on the Western side, comparing East European conduct with the intentions expressed at Helsinki. On the other side, complaints are bound to be levelled against the West.

The meeting of the foreign ministers of the Nine will be chaired by Mr Crosland, the Foreign Secretary.

Preparations are already well advanced for a joint EEC approach at the joint East-West review of the Helsinki pact due to be held in Belgrade at mid-year.

Officials say that a common position has already been reached on about three-quarters of the issues to be discussed in Belgrade.

The questions to be discussed in London will include how the Belgrade conference should be organized, how long it should last, and what decisions it should take.

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I can offer these coats in two lengths—fingertip (33" approx.) and three-quarter-length (about 36"), and in either men's or women's buttoning. Note my prices —

Fingertip length	Chest or bust sizes	Three-quarter length
£45.00	34" & 36"	£49.50
£48.50	38" & 40"	£53.50
£52.00	42" & 44"	£57.50
£55.50	46" & 48"	£61.50

At the prices I quote you might well ask, are they perfect? The truth is that there never was a perfect sheep in the same way as you will never find the perfect human being, but our coats are made from selected skins and are the equal of many being sold at twice the price! The answer to our low prices goes back to last year's scorching summer; nobody in their right senses was interested in sheepskins, so I put down an order there and then at most advantageous terms. Call it you can at any one of our six shops, or send your particulars to me personally, for my special attention and post free delivery. David Edwards.

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And bear in mind that all EULAV customers are protected by the uncompromising Eulav guarantee of fair play—return for full cash refund or exchange, whichever you prefer—if not absolutely delighted with your purchase. State whether Ladies (C2) or Gents (C4) buttoning required.



مَكْنَزُ مِنَ الْأَصْلِ



# Threat of closure to Catholic schools in Cape which mix races

Nicholas Ashford

Cape Town, Jan 21

Roman Catholic Church seemed to be heading for confrontation with the government over its decision to close the doors of Catholic schools to children of all races.

Mr. C. Botha, the Minister of Education, has issued a statement saying the church's refusal to accept a policy of racial integration is a violation of the Constitution, while the administration of both the Cape and the province have given notice that they may take action against schools which have gone ahead.

A spokesman for the African Catholic Bishops Conference in Pretoria made it plain that the church is not going to back down on its policy of racial integration in schools.

In a statement issued today, the Minister of Education said: "In accordance with the decision of the South African Catholic Bishops' Conference, at its plenary meeting in February, 1976, the Dominican Sisters' private schools have become open schools. They are accepting children without reference to so-called race classification."

In the Transvaal province, the Administrator, Mr. Sybrand van Niekerk, said his department was investigating which schools had been integrated. Where it was established that non-whites were being admitted, the school would be informed in writing that it was contravening the law. "Unless they comply with the law their registration will have to be withdrawn," he said.

In Pretoria an unrepentant Catholic spokesman described the move to integrate schools as a way of "giving witness to the Gospel." The church had embarked on this policy "without apprehension or fear but with the hope and faith. We still have much to do."

The Catholic church controls 171 white primary and secondary schools attended by an estimated 31,000 European children. It also maintains separate primary and secondary schools for 43,000 black and 10,000 Coloured children.



Mr. M. C. Botha: His separate schooling policy 'violated'.

## In brief

### New York banks take tough line

New York, Jan 21.—In the latest development in the saga of New York's financial crisis, the banks have proposed in a memorandum to Mr. Hugh Carey, the state Governor, a series of tough proposals in exchange for their continuing help.

One of their main demands is that President Carter should undertake to extend the system of federal loans for five years after it expires next year. Another is that the city's financial affairs should be supervised by a three-man commission to ensure that the budget is balanced.

### Dual murder alleged

Hackensack, New Jersey, Jan 21.—Robert Reldan, aged 36, who was once described as a "model graduate" of a programme for training sex offenders, has been indicted for the murders of Mrs Susan Heynes, the wife of a British Leyland official, and Miss Susan Reeve, a student, both of whom died in their homes in New Jersey in October, 1975.

Mr. Reldan is at present serving a prison term for burglary. The statement of claim was amended to ask for a declaration that the Attorney General in refusing his consent to bring a motion against the school was in breach of his duty and had wrongfully exercised his discretion.

### Labour camp strikes

Moscow, Jan 21.—Prisoners in scores of Soviet labour camps have staged hunger strikes and work stoppages as part of a resistance campaign against the camp authorities, according to Mr. Kronid Lyubarsky, aged 42, an astrophysicist who was freed four days ago.

### Blinkered nation

Berlin, Jan 21.—Every second East German wears glasses and last year three million people—one in six of the country's population—sought help for poor eyesight, the newspaper *Neues Deutschland* reported.

### London set for talks

Ankara, Jan 21.—Greece and Turkey will resume talks over dividing the continental shelf under the Aegean sea in London on January 31, a diplomatic source disclosed today.

### Rail crash toll rises

Sydney, Jan 21.—The death toll in the Sydney train crash rose to 82 today with the death of two men in hospital.

## Law Report January 21 1977

### Whether the courts have any control over the Attorney

*Gouriet v Union of Post Office Workers and others*

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Lawton and Lord Justice Ormrod.

The Court of Appeal reserved judgment on the appeal by Mr. John Gouriet against the Union of Post Office Workers from solicitors' orders to restrain the Union from soliciting or procuring any person to deal with or delay any postal matter in connection with the transmission between England and Wales and the Republic of South Africa. On Saturday January 15, the Court of Appeal granted an injunction until 10.30 am on January 18 to enable the Attorney General to appear before the court to oppose the Union's application for an order to restrain the Union from soliciting or procuring any person to deal with or delay any postal matter in connection with the transmission between England and Wales and the Republic of South Africa.

The statement of claim was amended to ask for a declaration that the Attorney General in refusing his consent to bring a motion against the school was in breach of his duty and had wrongfully exercised his discretion.

Mr. George Newman for the applicant, Mr. Mark Saville, QC, with Mr. Ian Hunter for the Union of Post Office Workers and Mr. John Veeber for the Post Office Engineering Union, the Attorney General, Mr. Samuel Silkin, QC, with Mr. Harry Woolf in his behalf.

Mr. Newman, continuing his submissions for the applicant, Mr. Gouriet, said that, having seen in the report in *The Times* (January 15, 1977) the statement of the Attorney General, he had used the words he had used in the report to indicate to the applicant that the Attorney General was in breach of his duty and had wrongfully exercised his discretion.

Mr. Newman said that the Attorney General had in fact granted his fiat. They supported his submission that the courts had no jurisdiction to interfere with the Attorney General's refusal to grant his fiat.

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his duty. They did not support the assertion that the Attorney had an absolute discretion on whether proceedings should be initiated.

Lord Justice Lawton said that in his experience in criminal cases, once the Attorney General, or someone authorized to represent him, appeared before the court with a motion, the court had at once to stop the proceedings, although it did not follow that the accused was acquitted.

Lord Justice Ormrod: The real issue at this stage is a pure question of jurisdiction. We are in effect dealing with an application to strike out Mr. Gouriet's writ and statement of claim on the ground that there is no jurisdiction to maintain it. Once it is decided that he is able to put his case to the court, the next question is whether he has sufficient grounds to maintain it. The court must treat him as representing the public? If he establishes that, the next question is: "Will the court in its discretion grant him an order?" Those are all separate stages.

Lord Justice Ormrod: But that would lead to the question why he exercised his discretion as he did. It is something which everyone has agreed the court cannot inquire into. Can you get on without his consent?

Lord Justice Ormrod: I cannot say that the court must state its reasons; but if a sufficient case is made out on the facts, the court is in a position to say that the facts presented to it. Where the Attorney has declined to give his consent on what appears to be the unreasonable grounds of his discretion, it is not possible for the applicant as a member of the public to come to the court and say that.

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unreasonably withhold his consent once a prima facie case had been made out.

The Master of the Rolls: I am not sure it is as simple as that. The Attorney General could not order him to grant his consent. The question still is whether if he does refuse, an individual can come to the court; and if he does come, could the Attorney come to the court and say: "Stop. This case should not go on."

Lord Justice Ormrod: The real issue at this stage is a pure question of jurisdiction. We are in effect dealing with an application to strike out Mr. Gouriet's writ and statement of claim on the ground that there is no jurisdiction to maintain it. Once it is decided that he is able to put his case to the court, the next question is whether he has sufficient grounds to maintain it. The court must treat him as representing the public? If he establishes that, the next question is: "Will the court in its discretion grant him an order?" Those are all separate stages.

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Counsel said that he was a bit afraid of the trade union legislation. He would prefer not to grapple with that important point in the present proceedings.

Mr. Barry Woolf, on behalf of the Attorney, said that it was clear that under the 1974 Act proceedings could be brought against an individual who was adversely affected by the failure of the police to enforce the law.

Lord Justice Lawton: Your difficulty is that Mr. Blackburn was able to show that a police action was taken. Here, though you may guess why the Attorney General decided not to enforce the criminal law against the police, you have no evidence of what was in his mind. Counsel said that in interlocutory proceedings all he had to show was that there was a serious issue involved.

Mr. Woolf said that many emotive statements had been made about the Attorney stopping dissent from coming to the court. Those statements were misconceived. As the law stood at present, he submitted that the individual could not get relief of the kind sought in the present proceedings unless the Attorney was prepared to be the plaintiff in the proceedings.

It was also established law that an ordinary citizen had no right to come to the court to get relief from the refusal of the Attorney to enforce the criminal law. The authority on that was *Thorne v British Broadcasting Corporation* (1977) 1 WLR 1104, a decision which was binding on the court.

Ever since Lord Halsbury's statement in *CC v Attorney General* (1902) 193 TC 169, the Attorney General's decision whether to proceed in a relation action was a matter beyond the jurisdiction of any court. It had never been doubted, until the present case, that the Attorney's exercise of his discretion in deciding whether to proceed in a relation action was a matter for him alone.

Lord Justice Ormrod: The question put before us is whether the Attorney General's refusal to grant his fiat is a political motive. It is usually a political motive in the Attorney's refusal to grant his fiat. It is usually a political motive in the Attorney's refusal to grant his fiat.

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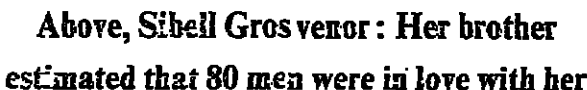
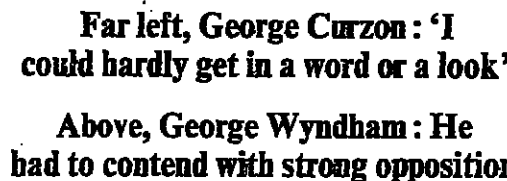
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quite well how worthy I am, but will try to make up as much as I can by devoting myself utterly to her happiness. Nothing is settled and the Duke of Westminster sees many objections. I hope you will not think I ought to declare myself in this way." Lady Scarborough had no objections and looked upon her prospective son-in-law with great favour. But not even she could dent the stern armour of ducal resistance.

A confrontation seemed to be the only way of settling the matter. On a cold December day Wyndham left his barracks at Windsor for Maidenhead, to visit the Duke of Westminster's southern residence of Cliveden, built by Sir Charles Barry and situated by the river. The Duke from his mother-in-law, the Duchess of Sutherland. Here in the great house on a hill beside the banks of the Thames, he attempted to plead his case before the Duke and his second wife Catherine. The Duke was not at all with much success and will tell you in a letter written to Sibell Grosvenor on the evening of December 4, after he had returned from his ordeal, "exactly what happened today. It was as everything always is—quite a different story to what I have told you (the Duke) does not consider it at all (he takes the ground that I am young and that nothing will make me older) . . . I gave up my day and toiled all the way to Cliveden and only 50 minutes in the house altogether. I don't know how it happened . . . I was shown into a room, D came in after a little and was kind. I plunged into the matter after a few minutes and was very gentle. I was surprised at his readiness to consider it. The only thing he said with any interest as far as I can make out was to go on saying 'you had formally promised' and repeated your promise again later in a letter dated 12th day. He pressed me so that I could hardly go on. Well I should have gone on I daresay and said lots more, but he got up and said 'won't you see Katie?' I was rather puzzled and said 'but said yes, so we went away (I was about 4-hour together) then I saw Katie. D said he would not ask me to lunch and seemed anxious for me to go so I went . . ."

The promise made rashly and then renewed in an effort to please her father-in-law had erected a terrible barrier. "You had no right," wrote Wyndham in desperation, "to put yourself in his power when you loved me and I loved you. I was not a slave to him then that he had no right, that even if he were your own father, he had no right to accept such a promise from a grown-up person. It is monstrous to make such a slave of you. And what right can he have to tell me not to marry him? I am not a child, because he said 'I am not as my consent was necessary' but repeats that you volunteered to promise. . . . It is because you tried to please him, by submitting so, that we are punished." The Duke must be asked to give Sibell Grosvenor back her promise. "This is the only thing to be done," Wyndham wrote. "You cannot force D to tell me anything by saying he approved of the thing. I am sure you give him more pain by being in sorrow than would be the case if you married and all went well. Everybody has said this to me of their own accord; first my father . . . and now today Katie, who says that D says 'that if he felt sure it was for your happiness he would not do it.'"

Then, just when all seemed lost, the Duke of Westminster

on December 12, wrote to Mrs Percy Wyndham. She told George that when she had seen the letter she feared that the Duke was going to appeal to her to dissuade her son from pursuing his suit. "I am sure he was wrong, The Duke began: "My dear friend, so the die is cast and all is settled" and went on to say that he would no longer oppose the marriage. Despite his continuing reservation that Wyndham was a "Victorian Barracks," he erupted in ecstatic triumph. He celebrated, and commented on his celebrations in a typically romantic fashion: "I have been very triumphantly happy today," he told his mother, "and my wife and I are so glad of my success. [It has not survived?] written after reading your letter, in remembering the sunrise at Gibraltar, as the most lovely thing I have seen, and mix it up with the happiest moments of my life, winning and losing a living thing. Since dinner I have written another wild 'whoop' of triumph—which I reserve and I think it probably gives me more pleasure now than it will and I doubt if it will ever be so good again. Only I had to have a shout and as I have been alone all day I wrote my shout."

He also wrote to the Duke of Westminster, and received the following rather astounding reply.

Eaton, December 14  
My dear George,  
I Thanks for your note. I am sure that you will be well, tho' you cannot expect that I give my "consent"—all that I can do is say that I will not stand in the way of your love and your happiness any longer.  
It will be for you to do all you can, in the coming year, to remove all obstacles, and to let all see and feel to exist—and on your responsibility—and it is no light one—must lie—may God bless you and direct all things, do your part honestly and well for her sake and for hers.  
Yours sincerely,  
The Duke of Westminster

The engagement was announced, and the wedding fixed for the private chapel at Eaton Hall on February 7, 1887. On December 9, from Southampton, the Earl of Carnarvon had been elected a Member of Parliament, George Curzon wrote to Sibell Grosvenor about his loss.

My darling Sibell,  
So, to the end has come and you have done what I always felt and said you would some day do—what I have longed for all my life. You have a right to do this of course; you have and you can take away. I make no complaint: I am glad that you have decided that you do that all is at an end between me and you: and that that connection which has been the light of our days for the seven years is broken for evermore.  
I cannot write this without emotion: my tears are falling now on the black paper as I write. The heart is full of all the things which he has grown to regard as a treasure and core of his being is not accomplished without a pang. And yet would not make you happy, I hope so, and I know it is your gladness. I do not want my last letter to be to one of bitterness or reproach. Let me therefore say this last time that I am glad for all that marvellous and most beautiful happiness which you have given me. For nearly eight years you have been more to me than any husband could be—my thoughts and feelings and emotions—aye—and hours and hours of life which I can never forget till I die. For all this I praise and bless you. I have no more to say. I am resigned to look on me, still more for having given me a fair portion of your affection. Now for the last time, as I have done so many times, I say to you, "God bless you and keep you. . . . Goodbye my own love, my lost love, goodbye. Forgive me if I have ever done you any harm, and I will sign myself just for this last time  
Your ever loving George.

© Max Egremont, 1977.  
*The Cousins*, by Max Egremont, will be published by Collins on January 31 at £6.50.

ember, 1883, George  
recent graduate of  
nd fellow of All Souls,  
a young woman some  
s senior.

God sent child. May I  
now show my darling-  
you Sibell, through my  
I is straining after you.  
I do to Sibell? All this  
have done nothing but  
out you the whole night  
then when I wake up so  
me disappointment that my  
is to one of unwhippsiness.  
night just over I have  
and that poor man of  
a second and sat many  
my knee and many times  
arous about my neck  
I many times as high as  
Sibell's head. I am a  
me and though you have  
me all night you are a  
and fifty miles do you  
am wreathed.

How can I enter do. You  
me happy by loving  
I would not surely make  
creature, a fellow human  
unhappy. You take all I  
know you for you must  
live to love them. Other-  
me to love them and  
because you have taken  
have it all. There is  
Sibell's life. I am con-  
Sibell. Sibell has com-  
my fainting soul.

How you own darling,  
you my darling. May  
I say this Christmas  
so lonely without you.  
Celebrate on Christ-  
festive wrote again.

How you own darling,  
I have  
nd found your beautiful  
cheers and inspires  
and seems to bring  
me to my own sur-  
round and loveliness.  
al. God be blessed for  
ed you on the Earth.  
I love my darling. I  
little case. Ready the  
is in it and ever shall  
without a rival. I am  
with you. I am with  
our words, that  
written outside.

darling. Little Christmas  
and my darling. I am  
my darling. Sweet  
very for you this night  
me or briary may hinder  
to me. I am with you.  
that your simple pure  
a nature may fill all  
or to ashes with its  
tear. I am with you.  
and fills me to with  
that grows weary and  
nd the power of weeds  
and the power of weeds  
I resent this morning in  
had no time. It will  
be no time. I am with  
nothing in my hand  
on my tongue are  
and pray for you this  
and your presence  
no nose - sweet with  
fect of Purson's ad-  
ness Sibell Grosvenor,  
if the Earl of Scar-  
wife of Earl of Scar-  
of Earl of Scar-  
r. She was beautiful  
admired for her  
as well as her  
ry Gladstone said of  
is a sweet little  
the keynote is unself-  
and later as  
ndham's wife in Ire-  
provoked a sister  
and a message on the  
Achill who said:  
seen many ladies  
the first that has  
to us." The effect of  
on men could be  
Her brother, Osric  
e calculated that,  
renor's early death,  
over 80 people in  
her, including  
of Earl of Scar-  
of Earl of Scar-  
(religion. Lord Har-  
later to tell Margot  
a "Lady Grosvenor  
the most dangerous  
ondon and that he  
answer for any man  
head or his heart  
her", to which Mar-  
agreed.

My own band, Earl  
was an invalid.

deteriorating fast. On January  
22 he died, leaving his young  
wife a widow with twelve  
daughters and a son. Hence-  
forth Curzon was free to pur-  
sue her with even greater  
ardour, and also to think of  
marriage.

After his return to England  
in September, 1885, George  
Wyndham resumed the life  
that he had enjoyed before the  
army had taken him to Egypt.  
Yet he was, in a sense, a dif-  
ferent person. The old pleas-  
ure appeared empty and  
superficial. There was waste of  
time when compared with the  
war in the desert. Parties  
began to pall. Thus he wrote  
to his father of the (having  
"capital fun at Stanway" (the  
home of the late Mary Stan-  
had recently married Lord  
Elcho) as a hum with "the  
best show of foxes I have ever  
seen" but Mary Elcho was  
told he was suffering from  
"restlessness which deprives  
of the power of concentra-  
tion which deprives me of  
news". "I am not at all sure",  
he declared of his Egyptian ser-  
vice, "that it was not a pre-  
ferable life to this of frowz-  
ing on guard and vesting one's  
time and money without amus-  
ing oneself or doing good to  
anyone else."

Clearly he was searching for  
some form of stimulation; and  
even nature came under the  
lash of this new melancholia.  
"There is a good deal of con-  
solation", he wrote, "to be  
got out of spring, when it is  
there; when it is not, whether  
in nature or the inner man, it  
is impossible to realize it  
through a medium of black  
streaks and black winds; but  
even although the spring does  
come back in a general way,  
still the individual flowers  
never come again, never." But  
through the black skies and  
biting winds "some sunlight  
begins to gleam and amaze"  
about this time Wyndham  
wrote: "I have been seeing a  
good deal of Sibell Grosvenor  
who is very nice to me and nice  
altogether."

The friendship developed  
fast, and by the middle of April  
he was writing:  
Dearest S.S. I loved getting your  
little line the other night, it was  
such a pleasure. I hope this one will bring  
another. I have been thinking of  
you a great deal and feel as if  
I were writing several times, but  
knew that this was only in imagi-  
nation. These letters are like the  
conversations that I have with you  
(without your knowledge) walking  
along the line of large  
candeliers in the marble colonnade  
of the Palace of Consolation,  
where your soft white dress looks  
even colder and more refreshing  
than the marble on which we  
stand.

By June, Wyndham was in  
love.

"Darling Sibell", he wrote  
on June 23, "you cannot  
imagine how stale, flat and un-  
profitable everything is to me  
without you. I would like to  
be with you. If only I could get  
Puck's 'Love in Idleness' and  
squeeze the juice in your dear  
sapphire eyes:

"The juice of it on sleeping  
petals laid  
Will make a man or woman  
madly do  
Upon the next live creature  
that it sees."

My head was so full of thoughts  
as whirled about my brain  
that I thought might that I sat up  
wide awake, without realising,  
and saw the sun rise; yet now  
I cannot write all I thought,  
but only bless you and long to  
see you again."

Sibell Grosvenor made  
Wyndham's military duties  
seem even more commonplace.  
From St. James's Palace, on  
June 24, he wrote on June 24: "I  
do thank you, darling Sibell,  
for having written to me. I

[illegible]

Duke of Westminster, that she would not remarry without first obtaining his consent.

The first Duke of Westminster was the archtypical Victorian aristocratic grandee. Vastly wealthy, a member of the House of Lords, which included virtually the whole of Belgravia, a philanthropist and deeply religious, he was also the owner of Eaton Hall, Victorian England's most splendid country house, and the first house building, George Wyndham had visited this in 1885, and had not cared for it. "I'm quite sure I don't like Gothic architecture," he had told his mother, and he found it all "stupid and a sort of cruel game." "There is a big chapel and clock-tower like the Houses of Parliament," he had continued, "with clock, valued at 20,000 guineas, that plays 48 tunes, the same tune every hour for a whole day (Madden says it is the same tune every day), yesterday 'Home Sweet Home'."

Westminster had been created a Duke by Gladstone in 1847 as a reward for his public service and adherence to liberal principles, even though, as a Member of Parliament, he had opposed the Liberal Party's Reform Bill of 1832. He consistently refused ministerial office. His charitable commitments were numerous, leading him to be president of several metropolitan hospitals, the Gardeners' Royal Beneficent Institution, the Metropolitan Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough Association and the United Committee for the Prevention of Cruelty to Dogs. He gave the Races by the Liquor Traffic (despite his affection for the Turf (he was probably the most successful racehorse breeder of his generation and

won the Derby five times. Westminster was a prudent man who never bet, not even on one of his own horses. He believed sternly in the creed of duty and was austere and correct at all times. He was married two impeccably aristocratic wives, having 12 children by them. Despite the 50 indoor servants, and 40 gardeners at Eaton, when there was no Duke, he was not a Duke lived in a state of quiet domesticity in a few rooms, He mistrusted quick decisions and reversed experience. Neither Charles Wyndham's youthful charge nor his own aristocratic appeal to him and he set his face against granting his daughter-in-law, of whom he was exceedingly fond, permission to marry this romantic young guards officer.

Wyndham was distraught. His parents realized that something should be done to prevent the blow of his disappointment. Thus when he suggested that he might go to India as ADC to his cousin Robert Bourke, Colonel Lord Commaera, Governor of Madras, his father agreed. The idea came to nothing. So he decided down once more to tell his life's sentiment to his still near, his still young daughter, his miserable at the immensity of the obstacles that stood in their way. By this stage she had become equally fond of him, as another suitor felt obliged to remark in September of the same year.

Prince Grosvenor's death was a blow as suddenly as the widow was dead. As late as September, 1886, he was still writing after they had made an expedition together to Oxford, in tones of grateful affection.

My darling, what a day yesterday was. I was so glad to be remembered. You shone like a sun ray upon Oxford, idealizing

the ideal, and irradiating the radiance. These tranquil interludes amid the shocks of life were possibly fortresses for the mind. "I was certainly given a sense of calmness and happiness beyond compare. I hope you did not miss me as much as I missed you, and submitted to all the fatigue. Few but you would have done it. You made me very happy. I hope I am not going to fancy that you were not altogether without a similar sensation. You were not!"

But on September 19 he felt obliged to hit out at his companion. "I should like to have seen you again on Friday but others—other—and nearness to George made me stay. I am sure in a word or a look sideways, and at times it made me quite mortified and sad."

However for Curzon, the battle was already lost. Wyndham's letter of September 11 from Victoria Berracks, Winchester, had attracted Wyndham's more attention. "You darling, you have spoilt me today with that lovely letter, and then another little one—I must write down now to you as you did to me 'I am happy' Darling Sibell (I write your name because it is lovely like you) the sun screaming in through my windows this morning and I am with you and I participate of consciousness of the delight of loving you, lovely lady; and I could not stay in bed but ran around the room and read Shelley." They decided to marry, despite the Duke's opposition. On October 11 Wyndham wrote to Sibell Grosvenor's mother, Lady Scarborough, to appoint her as Sibell's bridesmaid. "Sibell has told me," he said, "that she has written to you about me; and I must write to say how wonderful it all seems, and that I should have won so great a prize. . . . I know







**LI BOSKO**  
LONDON CONCERT SOCIETY  
WEDNESDAY NEXT, 26 JANUARY at 8 p.m.  
**CONDUCTOR: HARRY BLECH**  
Haydn: Symphony No. 94 in D, "Miraculous"  
Beethoven: Concerto No. 5 in E flat, "Emperor"  
Bach: Suite in C, "The English Suite"

**JOHN LILL**  
Next Thursday, 27 January at 8 p.m.  
**VORAKOVA sings DVORAK**  
with RPO - DORATI  
For full details see RPH South Bank Panel.

**New Philharmonia Orchestra**  
Sunday, January 30 at 7.30  
Sir Charles Groves Iana Vered  
Giles Swayne: Overture to "The Music"  
(1st London performance)  
Grieg: Piano Concerto  
Elgar: Variations on an Original Theme  
(Edinburgh)  
£2.50, £2.50, £1.50, £1.50, 90p from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents.

**Vladimir Ashkenazy conducts**  
**New Philharmonia Orchestra**  
Thursday, February 3 at 8.00  
Tchaikovsky: Fantasy Overture, Romeo and Juliet  
Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto (Soloist: Boris Belkin)  
Tchaikovsky: Manfred Symphony  
Sunday, February 6 at 3.15  
Mozart: Symphony No. 36 (Haydn)  
Mozart: Piano Concerto in F, K459  
Soloist: Vladimir Ashkenazy  
Tchaikovsky: Manfred Symphony  
£2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £1.50, 90p from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents.

**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM**  
**SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & CHORUS**  
**LOUIS FREMAUX**  
**JAMES GALWAY flute**  
Gerald English  
Midland Boy Singers  
Wendy-Ferrari  
Commissioned by the Festival Trust: First London performance  
£2.50, £2.50, £1.50, £1.50, 90p from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents.

**the Bach choir**  
Felicity Lott  
Stephen Roberts  
Choristers of King's College, Cambridge  
New Philharmonia Orchestra  
under DAVID WILLCOCKS present  
**HOLST • RUTTER • CROSSE**  
£2.50, £2.50, £1.50, 90p from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents & £1.25 (Mon-Fri), 125-124 Wigmore Street, W1M 0AX (01-935 8418)

**QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL**  
Management presents  
TUESDAY, 25 JANUARY at 7.45  
**LONDON EARLY MUSIC GROUP**  
Directed by JAMES TYLER  
Paul Brown, David Wootton, Oliver Brookes  
Alan Lomax, Nigel North, James Tyler  
**THE PLEASURES OF THE COURT**  
Music from The Courts of Four Royal Patrons  
£2.75, £2.50, £1.50, 90p from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents

**THE FIRES OF LONDON**  
Ave Maris Stella  
The Blind Fiddler  
Thomas soprano Peter Maxwell Davies conductor  
£2.50 (incl. VAT) from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 28th at 7.45 p.m.

**EDUARD MELKUS ENSEMBLE**  
ART played on original baroque instruments  
Kreutzer-K605, Adagio & Fugue in C K546  
triumph in D K205, Divertimento in F K247  
£1.25, £2.00, 60p from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents  
SUNDAY, 6 FEBRUARY at 3 p.m.

**LETANA QUARTET**  
A major Op. 18 No. 5 ..... BEETHOVEN  
3 Op. 73 ..... SHOSTAKOVICH  
5 minor ("From my life") ..... SMETANA  
£1.60, £2.20, 80p from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents & £1.25 (Mon-Fri), 125-124 Wigmore Street, W1M 0AX (01-935 8418)  
THURSDAY, 10 FEBRUARY, at 7.45 p.m.

**VLADO PERLEMUTER**  
CHOPIN  
Fantasie in F minor, Op. 49  
Studies, Op. 25  
Sonata in B minor, Op. 58  
£1.60, £2.20, 75p from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents  
HAROLD HOLT LIMITED presents  
**GABRIELI**  
STRING QUARTET  
with Olga Hegadus Cello  
**SCHUBERT**  
QUARTET "DEATH AND THE MAIDEN"  
QUINTET in C, D956  
SUNDAY, 13th FEBRUARY, at 3  
£1.20, £2.60, £2.00 from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents  
BRAY presents SUNDAY, 13 FEBRUARY at 7.15 p.m.

**ROSSINI**  
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA  
Conductor: MARCUS DODS  
N TEMPERLEY TERRY JENKINS JOHN KITCHENER  
OF SEVILLE Overture & Excerpts WILLIAM TELL Ballet Music  
GIRL IN ALGERIA Overture CEMENTOLA Excerpt LA DANZA  
£1.70, £2.20, £2.70 from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents  
TUESDAY, 15 FEBRUARY at 7.45 p.m.

**IC GROUP OF LONDON**  
Violin, Roger Garland violin, Christopher Wallington violin, Ellen  
Kells Puddy cello, Alan Clive horn, David Parkhouse piano  
HAYDN: Trio in E flat, HXV:30  
QUINTET, Op. 43  
ELGAR: Quintet in A minor, Op. 84  
£1.20, £2.50, 75p from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents & £1.25 (Mon-Fri), 125-124 Wigmore Street, W1M 0AX (01-935 8418)

**PURCELL ROOM**  
SUNDAY, 23 JANUARY at 7 p.m.  
**THE HANART ENSEMBLE**  
Markus Dushy recorder Judith Fellows harp violin  
Susan Rennie viola da gamba harp violin  
Jane Cox baroque cello Alan Wilson harpsichord  
Music by Boismortier, Leclair, Eccles,  
Defesch, Bach, Abel, Handel  
£1.00, £1.50 (ALL OTHERS SOLD) from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents  
Monday 23 Jan. 7 p.m.  
THE SONNATA: ALMANAC, Folly, Lull, Anthony Rolfe Johnson  
A BIRTHDAY SCHUBERT, Franz Schubert 31 Jan. 1797-1828  
£1.50, £2.40 (ALL OTHERS SOLD), 100s & 100s

**RICHARD DEERING**  
William Croft: Suite in D minor; John Field: Nocturne No. 6 in F; Frank Bridge:  
Three Pieces; Eugene Considine: Scherzando; Vivaldi: Concerto; Short: Sonata;  
Robert Schumann: Adagio and Allegretto; Liszt: Piano; Peter Dinklage: Prelude;  
Four Sonnets; Lamentation; Four Sonnets; Malcolm Arnold: Variations on a  
Ukrainian Folksong; Liszt: Piano; 100s & 100s  
£1.50, £1.50, 80p from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents  
Concert Management: Helen Anderson

**GLC South Bank Concert Halls**  
A Greater London Council enterprise. Director: George Mees OBE.  
Tel: 020 3111. Telephone bookings not accepted on Sunday.  
Information: 020 3072. For enquiries when postal bookings have already  
been made: 020 2872. S.A.E. with postal application.

**ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL**  
Today 22 Jan. 8.30 p.m.  
LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY English Baroque Orchestra  
Soloists: John Johnson, Stephen Roberts (soprano),  
Anthony Rolfe Johnson, Stephen Roberts (soprano)  
£2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50 only London Choral Society  
Sunday 23 Jan. 3.15 p.m.  
LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA and Cheltenham (piano)  
Beethoven: "Star Chamber" Sonata and Piano in D minor; Rachmaninov:  
Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor; Tchaikovsky: The Piano  
£2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50 only LPO Ltd.  
Monday 24 Jan. 8 p.m.  
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6 in B minor (Pathétique)  
£2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50 only LSO Ltd.  
Tuesday 25 Jan. 8 p.m.  
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6 in B minor (Pathétique)  
£2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50 only LSO Ltd.  
Wednesday 26 Jan. 8 p.m.  
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6 in B minor (Pathétique)  
£2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50 only LSO Ltd.  
Thursday 27 Jan. 8 p.m.  
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6 in B minor (Pathétique)  
£2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50 only LSO Ltd.  
Friday 28 Jan. 8 p.m.  
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6 in B minor (Pathétique)  
£2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50 only LSO Ltd.  
Saturday 29 Jan. 8 p.m.  
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6 in B minor (Pathétique)  
£2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50 only LSO Ltd.  
Sunday 30 Jan. 8 p.m.  
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6 in B minor (Pathétique)  
£2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50, £2.50 only LSO Ltd.

**QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL**  
Today 22 Jan. 7.45 p.m.  
LONDON HARPISCHORD ENSEMBLE John Francis (dir) Concerto  
No. 4 in E flat, Tchaikovsky and Vivaldi including Bach Brandenburg  
Concerto No. 4  
£1.50, £1.50, £1.50 (only) Jane Gray  
Sunday 23 Jan. 3.15 p.m.  
ELLYN BRANCA Piano Sonata Prokofiev (1st) and  
Mozart Sonata in C minor; Brahms: Variations  
on a Theme of Paganini; Op. 10, No. 5; J. S. Bach: French Suite,  
No. 1; Op. 9, No. 1; Liszt: Sonata in E major; Op. 10, No. 1  
£1.50, £1.50, £1.50, £1.50, £1.50 only LPO Ltd.  
Monday 24 Jan. 8 p.m.  
ZEMEL CHORUS and Piano Trio, Soloist: Michael Wilson (soprano)  
Liszt: Sonata in E major; Op. 10, No. 1; Liszt: Sonata in E major;  
Op. 10, No. 1; Liszt: Sonata in E major; Op. 10, No. 1  
£1.50, £1.50, £1.50, £1.50, £1.50 only LPO Ltd.  
Tuesday 25 Jan. 8 p.m.  
THE PHOENIX CHORUS and Piano Trio, Soloist: Michael Wilson (soprano)  
Liszt: Sonata in E major; Op. 10, No. 1; Liszt: Sonata in E major;  
Op. 10, No. 1; Liszt: Sonata in E major; Op. 10, No. 1  
£1.50, £1.50, £1.50, £1.50, £1.50 only LPO Ltd.  
Wednesday 26 Jan. 8 p.m.  
THE PHOENIX CHORUS and Piano Trio, Soloist: Michael Wilson (soprano)  
Liszt: Sonata in E major; Op. 10, No. 1; Liszt: Sonata in E major;  
Op. 10, No. 1; Liszt: Sonata in E major; Op. 10, No. 1  
£1.50, £1.50, £1.50, £1.50, £1.50 only LPO Ltd.  
Thursday 27 Jan. 8 p.m.  
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## Wigmore Hall

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Today 7.30 p.m.	MARIA KLIEGEL cello Jane Gray	Back: Sonata No. 2 in D BWV 1028 Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Monday 23 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	NORMAN BEEDE piano 23 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Tuesday 24 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	JULIAN BIRAM piano 24 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Wednesday 25 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	Harold Holt Ltd. 25 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Thursday 26 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	HOWARD SHELLEY piano 26 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Friday 27 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	HILARY MACHAMARA piano 27 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Saturday 28 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	WILHELM DUO 28 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
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Tuesday 31 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	PERCY-PRYMA-NEBE piano 31 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Wednesday 1 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	PETER O'HAGAN piano 1 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Thursday 2 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	TADEUSZ KERNER piano 2 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Friday 3 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	DICKSON-RATHBONE piano 3 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Saturday 4 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	EUGENE LIST piano 4 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Sunday 5 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	ERIC HILL piano 5 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Monday 6 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	STANLEY GORDON piano 6 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Tuesday 7 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	PHILIP JENKINS piano 7 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Wednesday 8 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	GERHARD MANTZ piano 8 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Thursday 9 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	BRUKA FRIEDER piano 9 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.
Friday 10 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	THE PARLOUR QUARTET 10 Feb. 7.30 p.m.	Back: French Suite No. 6 in E Schubert: Fantasia in C "Andante" Franz Liszt: Piano Op. 8 Franz Liszt: A. A.

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## Washington Notebook

## A preview of the Presidency?

At the inaugural gala newly elected President since Franklin D. Roosevelt have had the chance to see the cultural tone for their administrations. John Kennedy's blizzard-beset inauguration took a swinging tone from Frank Sinatra's temporary occupation of Washington that outlasted that brief presidency. Lyndon Johnson turned to an internationalism blended with homely Americanism that prized Nureyev and Margot Fonteyn against Woody Allen. The secret service-dominated first inauguration of Richard Nixon was somewhat upstaged by a counter-inaugural in a circus tent which saw the inauguration of a pig by the anarchist yuppies.

Jimmy Carter called for an American inauguration. He and his Vice-President Walter Mondale celebrated the inauguration in the hands of a committee with only the injunction that the performers be allowed to speak their minds. The show that resulted was all Hollywood glitz. The only trace of the nationalism appeared in the audience and the performers who spoke freely of wished Mr Carter a happy presidency.

More than other presidential inaugurations have done, the Carter gala featured black performers. Amid comedy on puns and comment the black comedian Redd Foxx who appears as the

father in the American version of *Stepie and Son* offered the high point. Joking about Washington's race riots of the 1960s, he went out of his way to blame white southerners for teaching their accented English to black slaves. His concluding thought was: "If nuclear war comes we'll all be black, and there won't be no neighbourhoods to live in."

Apart from his act, which was highly sanitized for the occasion, pointed dialogue gave way to wit. A Puerto Rican comedian dreamed of being the first Puerto Rican astronaut. Chevy Chase television comedy that who made a name for himself by emulating President Ford's celebrated bumbling, impersonated the chief justice in a mock presidential swearing-in which had President-elect Carter promising to "Serve the people... only beer and wine" and swearing to "quote Dylan" at every possible occasion.

Producer James Lipton kept disasters at a minimum, but the result was a slick and tinsel Hollywood spectacular, with the hostess ranging from Paul Newman and Bette Davis to the Republican hero John Wayne and Muhammad Ali. Token diversity saw to the representation of country music in Loretta Lynn.

For unrepeatably moments, James Lipton's production

arranged the second reunion in 17 years of the comedy act of Mike Nichols and Elaine May. They offered the first Jewish President being phoned by his mother in an act which seemed 17 years old, though it was special for the occasion. Another reunion, between Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel, might have been arranged. Simon sang for the concert, but Garfunkel, just returned from London, arrived too late to see his former partner's act.

For Broadway style there were songs from the revival of *Grease* and *Boyz n the City* and a long sequence from a dance by the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Beverly Sills sang, there were two new songs by Leonard Bernstein, one composed especially for the occasion with words from a poem by Anne Bradstreet, and rock and roll was represented by Aretha Franklin.

The original rock star for the event was to be Steve Wonder. When he cancelled, Elton John was chosen as the sole non-American act because, according to the producers, he came closest in stature to Stevie Wonder. When he disappeared for unexplained reasons, leaving his name on the programme but his place taken by Miss Franklin, the event became all-American once again.

The audience also glittered with show business stars among

the Georgia politicians. John Lennon was there with Yoko Ono, "Ambassadors from Utopia" in Miss Ono's words partly celebrating the green card that has allowed them to stay in the United States. For sheer outrageous presence Char and rock star Greg Allman were a couple who drew camera and crowd attention. Kennedy's fugitive Britisher, Peter Asher, was there to celebrate the American Presidency.

If this concert is a preview of Mr Carter's Presidency, and Washington pundits like to read the bones of every event for political augury, then far from the "down-home" naturalness of the campaign, the Carter administration looks set to be a medley of mainstream. The American diversity that Jimmy Carter landed as a candidate has settled down to the familiar circuit of New York, Los Angeles and Nashville recording flashiness. And international doesn't appear at all.

There was glitter, glamour and sardony at the Jimmy Carter centre for the performing arts, and shows unreasonably reminiscent of the Royal Variety Show, but all that glittered in President Carter's gala was certainly not gold.

Ned Chaillet



Leonard Bernstein

## Collecting Reminders of death

A small lock of the deceased's hair, over which his or her initials were worked in gold wire, came in at the end of the seventeenth century. In the eighteenth century, miniatures of obelisks, ladies weeping beside tombs, eyes and angels were painted on ivory and set in rings, brooches, pendants and small frames. Sotheby's have a fine collection of these coming up for sale on January 31, at prices estimated at between £30 and £150. For example, Lot 85, estimated at £60-£80, is catalogued as "A lady weeping at a tomb inscribed Follow my steps & soon we'll meet in Peace, beneath a willow tree; another similar of a young man at a tomb bearing the inscription Mrs Mary Williams Decr 24 1790. Aged 45 Yrs, bright-cut gold frame, the reverse with her compartment, oval 5.1cm and 6cm."

Not all memorial jewelry tells so cheaply. In November last year, Sotheby's sold for £25,000 a gold, emerald and enamel memorial ring inscribed "Henry Cavendish Esq. D. 1806. 1725. One the si course grende affliction" Henry Cavendish, Lord Harley, was the infant son of Edward, the second Earl of Oxford and Litchfield, his daughter and heir of John Holles, last Duke of Newcastle of that family.

If you intend to start a collection of memorial jewelry and miniatures, you should read *Changing Fashions in Memorial Jewelry* by Judith Banister, an article in the *Antique Dealer and Collector's Guide* for November, 1967. The relevant sections in G. E. Kurz's *Rings for the Finger* (1917) and J. R. MacCarthy's *Rings through the Ages* (1945) are also helpful. For more advanced information you should try to obtain the privately printed *Memorial Rings*, Charles the Second to William the Fourth, in the possession of Frederick Arthur Crisp.

For a good account of the Victorian boom in mourning jewelry, one can turn to *Victorian Sentimental Jewelry* by Diana Cooper (not to be confused with Lady Diana Cooper and Norman Battershill (David & Charles, 1971). Though death souvenirs in log oak, or of mounted photographs are also discussed, the main part of the book is about the Whitby jet industry. Whitby jet, so ideal a vehicle for Victorian mawkishness, had been mentioned by Bede. Camden translates a verse in Camillus Leonardus which draws attention to its property of attracting to it, when rubbed, light dry objects:

Pest stone, almost a gem, the Lybia's find, and ever bright.

But fruitful Britain sends a wood-kind kind.

'Tis black and shining, smooth and ever bright.

Bevis

The Victorians made death more terrible by the pomp and dread accoutrements of their mourning. The eighteenth century made it lighter, more elegant, sometimes even downright comic. I have never been quite able to picture the scene as some Georgian yokel or squires was laid to rest with one of those jocose epitaphs hacked by the local sculptor on his tombstone. Did the parson gurgled with mirth behind his handkerchief?

Eighteenth century mourning rings, usually bequeathed by the deceased to friends and relations as keepsakes, are as charming, with their willow trees, storied urns, cypresses, garlands and doves, as Victorian crosses and wreaths of Whitby jet are boring and ominous. This mourning jewelry is usually cheaper than other kinds, first because of its association with death, which puts some people off, and second because the memorial rings, brooches and miniatures often bear the names of the deceased and their dates of death, which means that one happens to be a descendant. At the same time the habit of dating mourning souvenirs makes it easy to establish a chronology.

Mourning rings were tokens of more substantial gifts, just as wedding rings represented, in a sentimental way, the gifts which the husband was formally expected to make

to the wife when he wedded her. Richard II (1366-1400) left a gold ring to each of his nine executors, five of whom were bishops and four, great nobles. In Shakespeare's will, dated 1616, 16 rings were bequeathed to Hamlet Sadler, William Reynolds, Anthony Nash and John Nash, his fellow townsmen, as well as to three actors, Burbage, Heming and Condel. The sum of 26s 8d was set aside for each of these rings.

The fashion was given currency after the execution of Charles I by memorial rings bearing his last injunction: "Remember." Princess Henrietta Anne of the House of Stuart, on the day of her death in 1670, while Bossuet was kneeling by her bedside, turned to one of her ladies waiting and said that "when she should have entered into rest an emerald ring was to be given to Bossuet." Isaac Walton added a codicil to his will (1683) providing for the distribution of rings to several relatives and friends: those for his friends were inscribed with the motto "A friend's farewell, I.W. obit." Those for his wife, son and daughter bore the legend "Love my memory." That for the Bishop of Winchester was inscribed: "A mite for the million. I.W. obit."

George Washington (d. 1799) bequeathed to his sisters-in-law, Hannah Washington and Mildred Washington, to my

friends Eleanor Stuart, Hannah Washington of Fairfield and Elizabeth Washington of Hayfield, each a mourning ring of value of \$100. These bequests are not made for the intrinsic value of the rings, but as mementoes of my esteem and regard."

Seven Nelson memorial rings were shown at the Royal Naval Exhibition at Chelsea in 1891, two containing some of the hero's hair. A Nelson ring in the British Museum has a raised oblong bezel bearing a viscount's coronet and a ducal coronet with N beneath the latter, indicating his titles, Viscount Nelson of the Nile and the Duke of Brontë. Below the letters is the name Trafalgar and on the outside of the hoop is Nelson's motto *Faithful until death*. (Let him bear the palm who merits it.)

Death-head memorial rings were common in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Some were worn by merry widows and by other ladies who were not widows, anxious to advertise their availability. Other emblems of death were skeletons, spade and pick and shovel, and a scythe. These were usually engraved on the inside of the ring. After the death of Queen Anne (1714) the fashion gradually changed. Inscriptions were frequently executed in raised letters and thrown into greater relief by the application of white and black enamel. The fashion for includ-

## Chess

## Hastings: after the battle

What went right at Hastings? Why was one left with a feeling of almost exultation, and at any rate, of great and lasting satisfaction? It was a category 5 tournament, and therefore neither was nor an excessively strong international one. This last consideration should please those who, through some strange quirk, want our home players to meet only indifferent foreign masters who can be relied upon to put up a feeble resistance.

Not that the foreign opposition was at all feeble, this time, as a glance at the final score fully demonstrates: —Romanishin (USSR) 11, Kagan (Israel) 9, Tarjan (United States) 8, Adorjan (USSR) 8, Miles (England) 7, Damjanovic (Yugoslavia), Farago (Hungary), Vukcevic (United States) and Zwaig (Norway) 6, Kaplan (United States), and Scharf (England) 5, Kradman (England) 4, and Rumsen (England) 5, and Webb 4.

All the same, these are not figures the sight of which would send one's blood racing. The usual nervous tension of one player battling against another and the intense rivalry between two or more players for the first prize was not there chiefly because the youthful Romanishin, who celebrated his twenty-fifth birthday during the course of the tournament, struck the peak of his form and never at any moment looked like ending anywhere lower than first.

Nor did we see, as we have seen on the occasion in the past, home players successfully dealing with the players from abroad. There was nothing like the successes of the late C. O'D Alexander, or the near success of William Hartston. The reason for this was that some of the best English players (Kearse, Hartston, Stone, Nunn, Mestel) were absent and the player who has proved himself best, against foreign opposition at any rate, Tony Miles, and who could have been an Alexander or a Hartston, was clearly out of form this time.

As a final point of criticism of the event I have to confess that I noticed an unusual number of errors this time. Fewer was played than to be seen and even the grandmasters committed blunders that would have made first class amateurs blush.

But all this pales into insignificance compared with the fact that exciting chess was played and that hardly any player started off with the idea

that a draw was better than a loss. All the players played to win and the style was uniformly a fighting one with the only difference being that some players were more successful than others.

Romanishin himself was a delight to watch. There is a fire and an energy about his play that makes it coruscate and sparkle almost as though it was Alekhine himself, to instance what one might call the most stellar of all players. When I watched him play the Ruy Lopez Premier (a game I have already published in these columns) it brought back vivid memories of the late Paul Keres in play. And in the last round, when a quick draw against Scharf was inevitable, he played to win regardless.

Then there was the extraordinary case of Shimon Kagan. He came second in last year's Challengers' group and thus failed to qualify for this year's Premier. At the last moment the organizers asked him to fill a vacancy left by another invitee. This time, playing in the Premier, he came second and was the only player to defeat Romanishin. Nor was this all. By gaily despoiling his more than fulfilled the grandmaster norm for this tournament, which was 9 points. All he has to do to acquire the grandmaster title is to achieve another grandmaster norm, but this time in a tournament with a lesser number of players (12 as opposed to the 15 at Hastings). Plans are afoot to hold an international tournament in this country, at Birmingham in Easter and to this he will certainly be invited.

Only two players went through the tournament without losing a game, to play to Hungary and to play to USA. Adorjan did have a weak period in the middle of the tournament when he was afflicted by influenza and so played a number of draws in order to spare his weakened stamina. But Tarjan's draws were all fighting ones and he is a player who loves to attack and whose concentration, too, is young and a player to be watched.

As for our own English players, Miles may have been out of form but he gained sixth prize and gave the players above him many uneasy moments. Very noticeable was the accurate power of his play and his accuracy and indeed he received, for his play, the prize for the best endgame played. A future world champion? Possibly, but first he has

to acquire that universal quality that characterizes the present world champion, Karpov, and has always been a dominant feature of world champion play.

It still is a characteristic of the former world champion, Vassily Smyslov, and here, from the 11th round, is how he makes the most of a player, though a grandmaster and many years younger than Smyslov, is inclined on occasion to play, as his fellow countryman Adorjan put it, like a peasant. White Smyslov, Black Farago. English Opening. 1. P-Q4, 2. P-K3, 3. P-K3, 4. P-K3, 5. P-K3, 6. P-K3, 7. P-K3, 8. P-K3, 9. P-K3, 10. P-K3, 11. P-K3, 12. P-K3, 13. P-K3, 14. P-K3, 15. P-K3, 16. P-K3, 17. P-K3, 18. P-K3, 19. P-K3, 20. P-K3, 21. P-K3, 22. P-K3, 23. P-K3, 24. P-K3, 25. P-K3, 26. P-K3, 27. P-K3, 28. P-K3, 29. P-K3, 30. P-K3, 31. P-K3, 32. P-K3, 33. P-K3, 34. P-K3, 35. P-K3, 36. P-K3, 37. P-K3, 38. P-K3, 39. P-K3, 40. P-K3, 41. P-K3, 42. P-K3, 43. P-K3, 44. P-K3, 45. P-K3, 46. P-K3, 47. P-K3, 48. P-K3, 49. P-K3, 50. P-K3, 51. P-K3, 52. P-K3, 53. P-K3, 54. P-K3, 55. P-K3, 56. P-K3, 57. P-K3, 58. P-K3, 59. P-K3, 60. P-K3, 61. P-K3, 62. P-K3, 63. P-K3, 64. P-K3, 65. P-K3, 66. P-K3, 67. P-K3, 68. P-K3, 69. P-K3, 70. P-K3, 71. P-K3, 72. P-K3, 73. P-K3, 74. P-K3, 75. P-K3, 76. P-K3, 77. P-K3, 78. P-K3, 79. P-K3, 80. P-K3, 81. P-K3, 82. P-K3, 83. P-K3, 84. P-K3, 85. P-K3, 86. P-K3, 87. P-K3, 88. P-K3, 89. P-K3, 90. P-K3, 91. P-K3, 92. P-K3, 93. P-K3, 94. P-K3, 95. P-K3, 96. P-K3, 97. P-K3, 98. P-K3, 99. P-K3, 100. P-K3, 101. P-K3, 102. P-K3, 103. P-K3, 104. P-K3, 105. P-K3, 106. P-K3, 107. P-K3, 108. P-K3, 109. P-K3, 110. P-K3, 111. P-K3, 112. P-K3, 113. P-K3, 114. P-K3, 115. P-K3, 116. P-K3, 117. P-K3, 118. P-K3, 119. P-K3, 120. P-K3, 121. P-K3, 122. P-K3, 123. P-K3, 124. P-K3, 125. P-K3, 126. P-K3, 127. P-K3, 128. P-K3, 129. P-K3, 130. P-K3, 131. P-K3, 132. P-K3, 133. P-K3, 134. P-K3, 135. P-K3, 136. P-K3, 137. P-K3, 138. P-K3, 139. P-K3, 140. P-K3, 141. P-K3, 142. P-K3, 143. P-K3, 144. P-K3, 145. P-K3, 146. P-K3, 147. P-K3, 148. P-K3, 149. P-K3, 150. P-K3, 151. P-K3, 152. P-K3, 153. P-K3, 154. P-K3, 155. P-K3, 156. P-K3, 157. P-K3, 158. P-K3, 159. P-K3, 160. P-K3, 161. P-K3, 162. P-K3, 163. P-K3, 164. P-K3, 165. P-K3, 166. P-K3, 167. P-K3, 168. P-K3, 169. P-K3, 170. P-K3, 171. P-K3, 172. P-K3, 173. P-K3, 174. P-K3, 175. P-K3, 176. P-K3, 177. P-K3, 178. P-K3, 179. P-K3, 180. P-K3, 181. P-K3, 182. P-K3, 183. P-K3, 184. P-K3, 185. P-K3, 186. P-K3, 187. P-K3, 188. P-K3, 189. P-K3, 190. P-K3, 191. P-K3, 192. P-K3, 193. P-K3, 194. P-K3, 195. P-K3, 196. P-K3, 197. P-K3, 198. P-K3, 199. P-K3, 200. P-K3, 201. P-K3, 202. P-K3, 203. P-K3, 204. P-K3, 205. P-K3, 206. P-K3, 207. P-K3, 208. P-K3, 209. P-K3, 210. P-K3, 211. P-K3, 212. P-K3, 213. P-K3, 214. P-K3, 215. P-K3, 216. P-K3, 217. P-K3, 218. P-K3, 219. P-K3, 220. P-K3, 221. P-K3, 222. P-K3, 223. P-K3, 224. P-K3, 225. P-K3, 226. P-K3, 227. P-K3, 228. P-K3, 229. P-K3, 230. P-K3, 231. P-K3, 232. P-K3, 233. P-K3, 234. P-K3, 235. P-K3, 236. P-K3, 237. P-K3, 238. P-K3, 239. P-K3, 240. P-K3, 241. P-K3, 242. P-K3, 243. P-K3, 244. P-K3, 245. P-K3, 246. P-K3, 247. P-K3, 248. P-K3, 249. P-K3, 250. P-K3, 251. P-K3, 252. P-K3, 253. P-K3, 254. P-K3, 255. P-K3, 256. P-K3, 257. P-K3, 258. P-K3, 259. P-K3, 260. P-K3, 261. P-K3, 262. P-K3, 263. P-K3, 264. P-K3, 265. P-K3, 266. P-K3, 26





St Peter's Basilica in Rome.

## Gardening

## Selecting seeds

years I have faith in my assessments they were worth, of vegetable varieties they compared with varieties, many of which I believe are well worth. As far as seedling of new vegetables is done with seedlings in mind, mentioned last week, there is a bit of the amateur flourish put in by the satisfy the commercial needs.

days when vast of vegetables are canning or freezing, of size, say of Brussels, and evenness of that the whole rested at once, are then a certain tough-desirable-by the vegetables have to be handled on distances.

These characteristics are variety to the next in one respect he breeders' producing varieties or resistant to certainly do well worth while obtaining seed catalogues and carefully for a prone to disease varieties.

ke swedes, and if is affected by club as so many are, Chignecto is the It was bred for this disease.

been progress, scumbers. We now like Fenspot (Femina), which female flowers so do not have the picking of male and much worse from being pollinated to bitter fruits, varieties, suitable under glass, are certain diseases, cucumber. But Green is resistant and downy mildew, variety.

problems with some seasons and is mildew and s, and much worse on the breeding varieties. The converters have now e of disease-resistance and I hope these by become available amateur. But an buy packets of and Appia lettuce.

seases have not em with your lettuce of mixed lettuce and cabbage, ra at different good bet. I make s, one in late r in May, and a June. This keeps lettuce all summer, the non-heating Bowl may be here, even as an ose bed, and you leaves as required summer. It is a for hot weather bolt to seed. bolting is a nuisance and in beet. Wonderful, of a splendid crisp t is very slow to the hottest summer. Bolting early, in March s not bolt to seed varieties sown as

the marrows, we urgettes which of dry strains of the row which have to crop more the old bush and and to bear mar- prolifically. The ch these, and i-ows, is to cut the they are very ches long or o obtain a large

The tomato is another vegetable that has been the subject of intensive breeding at home and abroad. There are so many factors that the breeders have tried to work into the tomato—uniformity of size, for example. It was decreed by somebody that tomatoes should weigh nine to the pound. So you will never have the chance to buy a really large tomato for stuffing, as you may in a French market.

If you are as fond of tomatoes as I am you will do as I do and grow half a dozen plants of Marmande in a warm corner of the garden. It does not seem too happy under glass. Marmande, besides being a very large tomato, also has an excellent flavour, at least to my way of thinking, and I know to the taste of many other people.

But the tomato is subject to disease and physiological disorders. Cladosporium or leaf mould disease is very troublesome, especially in small amateur's greenhouses where ventilation and temperature control is difficult. Then there is the physiological disorder of greenback—the top part of the fruit remains green and does not ripen properly. It may be caused by high temperatures in the greenhouse, or by a shortage of potash. But it is a problem we can do without, and nowadays there are tomato varieties which do not suffer from greenback and which are resistant to cladosporium. In a greenhouse I have had excellent results with Eurocross BB and Amberley Cross, both free from greenback and resistant to cladosporium.

There has, of course, been much breeding work done with sweet corn. The John Innes hybrid introduced many years ago was probably the variety that many readers first grew. Then came Keiverton Glory, still a fine variety. But for a long time the sweet corn was a vegetable only for the milder southern counties; it did not mature quickly enough in the northern half of England.

But now we have Suttons First of All, Earlicking, and North Star, all varieties that may be confidently expected to give a good crop in a reasonably warm summer in all but the coldest districts. In the north I would definitely try North Star, raising the plants under glass and planting them out under cloches in late May or June, and keeping the cloches in place as long as possible—until the plants are pushing against the top of the cloche.

I have never really been very clever with sweet corn. When our children were at school we always took our holiday in early August because I had to be back to go to Southport flower show in the third week of the month. No matter what variety of sweet corn I grew, or when I sowed it, the bulk of the crop seemed always to mature when we were away. Eventually, when we acquired a deep freezer, I gave up worrying. A kind friend picked the crop and put it in the freezer when we were away.

You will see in seed catalogues varieties marked with an asterisk or some other sign, to indicate that they are recommended for freezing. You will find different varieties so marked in different catalogues. But my experience over the past 15 years is that it does not matter very much which variety you grow to put in the freezer provided you gather the crop in the pink of condition, when it is young and tender, and have it into the freezer within the hour. After all, if you want to eat peas or sweet corn at their best you do just this.

Roy Hay

## Bridge

## The rewards for guesswork

In these hard times (no pun intended) we should be proud that a great weekly newspaper continues to sponsor an international tournament which has become world-famous. All the foreign champions are grateful for an invitation to compete in it, although there are no cash prizes; but such is the prestige conferred upon the winners that two American professionals who were victors, asserted that their success was worth \$20,000 dollars to them. Only a small proportion of the competitors live by teaching and by being hired to play with amateurs.

This year the current President of the World Bridge Federation, James Orr-Patino, an international champion in his own right, is partnered by Pietro Bernasconi, an outstanding player of the cards, and they will represent Switzerland. Others likely to end in high places after five gruelling sessions are I. M. Boulenger and H. Svare who represent France, and the current Olympiad champions Gabriel Chagas and Pedro Assumpcao of Brazil. Four British pairs will be playing and the order in which they will finish is anybody's guess, although the most experienced partnerships are Rose-Flint and Friday-Rodrigue.

Play begins at 8.30 pm, on Friday, 28 January and ends at midnight on Sunday, 30 January. The venue is The Churchill Hotel, Portman Square, London, W.1 and the admission fee is £15.00 per session or £55.00 for the whole tournament.

Although the marriage of true minds should be free from impediments, some players in previous years have met with disaster in what appear to be uncomplicated situations; since they bear famous names, I am not mentioning them, because they might sue me for libel. But it is a fact that in a Pairs competition, however high the standard, there is a greater reward for successful guesswork than for trusting to percentages, whilst overbidding secures a "top" when conventional bidding sends partners to the bottom.

North South game; dealer South:

♠ 9 8 2  
♥ K J 9  
♦ A 10 8 7 3  
♣ 8 7 6 5 4

♠ K 3  
♥ 10 7 4 3  
♦ Q 8 6 5 3  
♣ 8 2

♠ A 10 8 7 3  
♥ N  
♦ A J 9  
♣ K Q 5 4

♠ A 10 8 7 3  
♥ N  
♦ A J 9  
♣ K Q 5 4

♠ A 10 8 7 3  
♥ N  
♦ A J 9  
♣ K Q 5 4

♠ A 10 8 7 3  
♥ N  
♦ A J 9  
♣ K Q 5 4

♠ A 10 8 7 3  
♥ N  
♦ A J 9  
♣ K Q 5 4

♠ A 10 8 7 3  
♥ N  
♦ A J 9  
♣ K Q 5 4

♠ A 10 8 7 3  
♥ N  
♦ A J 9  
♣ K Q 5 4

What a fuss there has been about British Airways' decision to cut the prices of some of its summer holidays. What fierce reaction, also, to Thomson's blanket guarantee against surcharges and to that of other companies climbing on the bandwagon.

I write, you will understand, about the fuss and reaction within the travel trade. The public appears to have been thrown into an absolute paroxysm of indifference. Utterly underwhelmed by it all.

Having absorbed Mr Healey's pre-Christmas financial blows and then more or less hibernated for a couple of weeks, most people have reemerged into their high streets to study the sale bargains. They do not appear to be buying package holidays abroad—certainly in nothing like the numbers anticipated by the travel industry. The travel agents and tour companies are very worried about this. Hence the blanket guarantees and cut-price moves. We are, I believe, only a short step away from the next stage of the game. The "all right, so make me an offer" stage.

It is almost coming to pass already in respect of winter and spring holidays, as operators invoke the money-off options in their brochure small print.

Whether these are called Best Buys or Bargain Buys, Sun Savers or Special Discounts, these price cutting

schemes will feature prominently in coming weeks. "We shall use this (price-cutting) as a marketing tool to persuade people to make decisions quickly," confirmed the commercial director of one tour company last week.

Thomas Cook—currently offering up to £20 off the price of their winter sunshine holidays—are merely using that same marketing tool. So, of course, are British Airways and British Caledonian, with discount offers on Sovereign, Enterprise and Blue Sky holidays next summer. How many companies will follow suit to salvage the present winter/spring season? Especially if bookings remain low in spite of present inducements?

Normally, those who take advantage of special offers are likely to have a choice only of those few places which remain available on holidays the tour company wants to "top up". Under present circumstances the choices are far wider and it is well worth making inquiries of travel agents, to whom the discount details are sent. If you do not ask, you may not find out.

I believe that far more people are choosing to make their own holiday plans this year. Most thousands will remain in Britain, banking on another fine summer. Thousands more will forsake the inclusive holiday and perhaps cross the Channel with their own cars. And others will take a package of low priced "abandon" package deals. Those who do travel on tour company arrangements will certainly be looking for bargains and for quality.

Glancing through some of the spring holiday brochures, I

## Travel

## First blows in discount war

encountered an interesting programme from British Airways called "Traveller's Europe". This offers holidays in pensions and small hotels ranging from a fifteenth century Florentine palace to a "gourmet" hotel in Nice.

A seven night holiday to Rome is in the brochure at £73 from now until March 3, rising to £78 for the rest of that month. The pension used—the Barretti—is claimed to be one of the oldest in the Italian capital.

In Florence, the pension Monna Lisa is featured in the British Airways programme, with a seven night holiday there listed currently at £117, rising to £120 in March. The Monna Lisa, an old palace, dates partly from before the fourteenth century and was the birthplace, in 1515, of St Philip Neri.

Three night (weekend) holidays, as well as seven nights are offered in Paris, Vienna, Munich, Copenhagen and Amsterdam. Also four, seven and fourteen night holidays to Nice. I recently spent a weekend in Vienna—though not on a British Airways holiday—and found the Austrian capital a most pleasant location for such a winter break holiday. Coincidentally, the hotel in which I stayed, the Kärntnerhof, is one of those used in this programme of holidays and a week there may be had for £93 (rising to £95 in March).

As for the gourmet hotel in Nice, this is the Hotel Le Gourmet. Lorraine, whose proprietor is a *Trophée Escoffier*, *Meilleur Sommelier*. A week there costs £108 (£110 in March).

The current "a la carte" brochure from Thomson pre-

sents a range of spring holiday options—from three to fourteen nights at a variety of destinations and with the added advantage of departures from provincial airports.

I noticed the Sheraton Hotel at Hammamet in Tunisia is featured—a week there being currently available for £131. A week in Marrakesh costs £127 and the Thomson brochure features three hotels in Tenerife and three in Gran Canaria for those who wish to ensure sunshine on their spring break.

Judging by what various tour companies tell me, the Canary Islands and Madeira are doing remarkably well for both spring and summer holiday bookings. (Thomson uses Reids and the Savoy on Madeira).

To mention just these two holiday brochures, I know, invidious, for a number of other companies are offering similar spring holidays. Thomas Cook, in particular, has a most interesting programme and there are, also, a number of short-duration coach tour holidays that may appeal. So the advice is, as it so often is, to take yourself off to a travel agent and do some serious bargain hunting. He should steer you towards some of those reduced price holidays and, who knows, you may find exactly what you want among them.

Certainly there are plenty of spring holidays still available and tour companies are about ready to begin their "topping up" manoeuvres so the time is right. As for the summer, we should see some most fascinating developments over the next few weeks. Watch (as they say) this space.

John Carter

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## Food

## New heart for poor pastry makers

Fruit crumbles with their juicy fruit base and crisp top are the next best thing to a fruit pie. In fact if you are not very good at making pastry and never tackle fruit pies of any kind, take heart. You will find a fruit crumble quicker and easier to make and just as popular.

A crumble mixture consists of flour, butter and sugar and the ingredients are combined by rubbing the fat and sugar into the flour, or by using the same method as a pastry, but no liquid is added. Instead the crumbs are simply sprinkled over the fruit and the whole is put to bake. You can use all kinds of fruit throughout the year: cut up rhubarb flavoured with a pinch of ginger, sliced apples with cinnamon or a sliver of lemon rind, apricots or gooseberries when they come into season and later in the year, plums. Use about 1½ lb prepared fruit along with sugar to sweeten (about 2-3oz per lb of fruit) and stew gently with not more than 1 tablespoon of water and a knob of butter. At any time of the year you can use bottled or canned fruit so long as you use only a little of the fruit juice. Two much fruit juice in the base of a crumble will bubble up around the sides of the dish and brown to a caramel on the crust.

A crumble topping should be rich and crunchy and the proportions in the following shortbread crumble mixture gives this kind of result. Anyone who finds it difficult to rub fat into flour should cut in the fat using two table knives and a kind of "scissors" action. But the secret of getting a really crunchy mixture is to add the sugar and then, using finger tips, to continue rubbing in so that you actually make the mixture so "short", something to avoid when making pastry

but makes crumble taste very good. When the ingredients begin to cling in larger, coarse lumps it is ready to use.

Crumbles are best baked in fairly shallow oven dishes so that you get a good area of topping because its surface of the crumble that becomes crisp in the oven.

Spiced apple crumble  
Serves 4  
1½ lb cooking apples  
1 tablespoon water  
½oz butter  
3oz soft brown sugar  
pinch mixed spice

For the shortbread crumble  
6oz flour  
4oz butter  
2oz castor sugar.

Peel the apples, then quarter and core them. Cut them up coarsely into a saucepan and add the water and butter. Cover with a lid and cook gently stirring or shaking the pan occasionally until the apples are soft. Draw the pan off the heat and stir in the brown sugar and mixed spice. Spoon the mixture into a buttered 1½ pint shallow baking dish and set aside while preparing the crumble topping. Sift the flour into a bowl. Add the butter cut in pieces and then rub into the mixture to get fine crumbs. Add the sugar and continue to rub in rather more heavily, until the mixture clings together in larger crumbs. Scatter the mixture over the fruit and press down lightly. Place above centre in a moderate oven (350°F or gas No 4) and bake for 50-60 minutes until the top is firm and biscuity. Dust with a little icing sugar and serve hot with cream.

A fruit cobbler with a baked some topping provides an alternative idea. For this you could use some of your own fruits from the freezer if you allow them to thaw first.

Fruit cobbler  
Serves 4  
1½ lb fruit—see recipe  
6oz castor sugar—see recipe  
3 tablespoons water or fruit juice

For the topping  
8oz self raising flour  
pinch salt  
3oz butter  
2oz castor sugar

1 egg  
4 tablespoons milk  
extra milk and granulated sugar—see recipe.

Any fruits can be used under a "cobbler" topping, but those with a sharp flavour are best, like rhubarb, gooseberries, plums or blackberries and, of course, bottled or tinned fruit. Pack prepared fruits neatly into the base of a 1½ pint baking or pie dish that has been lightly buttered. Add the sugar and water. In the case of bottled or tinned fruits less sugar will be required according to the sweetness of the fruit syrup and only three tablespoons of the syrup should be added in place of the water. Preheat the oven to hot (400°F or gas No 6) and put the fruit in to warm through for 5 minutes while assembling the cobbler topping. Sift the flour and salt together in a mixing basin. Rub in the butter and then add the sugar. Using a fork stir in the lightly mixed egg and milk and mix to a rough dough in the basin.

Turn out onto a floured surface and pat or roll the dough out to about 1 inch in thickness. Using a round cutter stamp out as many scones as possible, using up the trimmings to make the last few. Arrange these slightly overlapping to cover the top of the warmed fruit. Brush with milk and sprinkle with granulated sugar. Place above centre in a hot oven (400°F or gas No 6) and bake for 15 minutes. Then lower the heat (to 375°F or gas No 5) and bake for further 15 minutes. The individual circles of scones mixture will bake together to form one complete crust which seals in the fruit and juices underneath.

Edward Mayer

Katie Stewart

Katie Stewart

Katie Stewart

Katie Stewart

Katie Stewart

Katie Stewart

Katie Stewart

Katie Stewart

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Katie Stewart

Katie Stewart



George Hutchinson

# There will be more than one surprise to come for the Tory Jeremiahs

Mr Callaghan is becoming quite chipper these days, at all events in public, and I trust that his air of optimism is well founded. If the economy is really and truly improving, so much the better for everyone: it would be a poor spirit who wished otherwise. There can be no lasting advantage to anybody of good will and reputation in a continuing national decline.

Let us suppose, however (and this is not unreasonable), that the economic outlook is less promising than the Prime Minister would have us believe. Let us suppose, moreover, that his parliamentary calculations on devolution prove faulty, so that after six months the gamble is seen to have failed and he cannot advance, let alone hope to complete, his very shaky legislation. If only for that reason (and of course there are others) a general election may be forced upon him much as he would prefer to avert the test this year.

What then? On present evidence, the Tories could be expected to win. Yet some of them are still strangely reluctant to acknowledge the prospect.

Is Margaret Thatcher equipped for the responsibilities of premiership? they ask. Is she ready to assume office and form an administration of quality? Given the Queen's commission, could she hope to succeed, or even survive?

To each of these questions one might expect most—but not all—Labour MPs and other committed socialists to answer no. It is in the nature of party politics that they should do so, although with some exceptions. I am not thinking of Mrs Thatcher's opponents, however, but of her well-wishers. In my own experience, these and similar questions are exercising many Conservatives. We might try to examine them.

To begin with, it can surely be said that Mrs Thatcher enjoys the support of the overwhelming bulk of her party. True, her Tory detractors have not all been converted, but they are relatively few in number. In their elected leader the Tories recognize a lady of varied accomplishments (scientific, legal, administrative), undeniable courage, firmness of purpose, application and energy (the product of a strong constitution). They display every token of faith in Mrs Thatcher personally. Where doubt still exists it turns on two considerations: the will and calibre of some of her immediate colleagues and the ability of a Conservative administration to govern effectively if faced with concerted trade union opposition.

As to the first reservation, we might indeed agree that she could be equipped to greater

advantage, not only on the front bench in the House of Commons but within all the arms of the party organization—Central Office, Research Department, area agencies. Not every member of the Shadow Cabinet is doing as much as might reasonably be asked of him, for example in the important sphere of speech making. Mrs Thatcher could afford to be stern with some of them. Equally, she could encourage (or require) Lord Thorpe, the party chairman, to be stern with his subordinates as he racks the remaining deficiencies of the central and regional organization—and indeed he cannot be anything else, or he may be accused of risking the election.

Let us assume, however, that the public mood as we know it is maintained, that in the event Labour is dismissed, and that Mrs Thatcher duly completes her romantic journey to 10 Downing Street. The next test is then upon her: to establish a good government that can act with success.

Not long ago I was suggesting in these columns that there are as many (or more) candidates for office outside the present shadow administration as there are in it, although will not weary you by reciting their names again—or not just yet. If this is true, Mrs Thatcher

should be able to form a rather promising ministry, certainly one that is superior to Mr Callaghan's, measured not only in terms of policy but by the individual capacities of those who are likely to comprise it.

There is, I think, an over-large quota of Jeremiahs in the Tory Party. The collective leadership, actual and prospective, may still surprise them. With that, we return to the other aspect of their misgivings: fear that the Tories will not be allowed to govern because of trade union determination to bring them down. To surrender to this belief is to surrender to hopelessness: I may perhaps be forgiven for repeating that it represents a counsel of despair. Mrs Thatcher's purpose, as she has demonstrated again this week, will be to achieve a just and honourable relationship with the unions—millions of whom members and their families will be voting Conservative in the election.

Recapitulation was the theme of the Queen's most admirable Christmas broadcast. Mrs Thatcher recognizes her own duty in this respect—the high responsibility which almost certainly lies before her. Those of us who know her cannot believe that she would ever adopt a narrow policy of antagonism towards the unions,

much less a provocative one, if only because she is too intelligent and has learned an important lesson from Mr Heath's experiences. All she will be looking for is a similar attitude of good will in the national interest on the part of the TUC, and is entitled to expect it. Why assume that she will be disappointed? Why not repose a little more confidence in our fellow citizens, as she does?

Two of the most sensitive and perceptive tributes to Lord Avon in Parliament this week were made by members of the Labour Party, Lord Peart and Mr Marcus Lipton. Many must have read them with emotion. Both reflected his influence for unity in his long years of public service up to Suez.

Anthony Eden was admired and respected throughout the country, by people of all parties and of none. He was a truly national figure, and as Lord Peart rightly said "it is not useful" to reopen Suez on the morrow of his death, when there is so much in his record that we can all agree about and honour.

My own favourite tribute to him was made by Churchill in his memoirs. You may like to be reminded of his feelings after Eden's resignation as Foreign Secretary in 1938, when he could no longer coun-

tenance the Chamberlain government's appeasement of the European dictators.

Late in the night a telephone message reached me as I sat in my old room at Chartwell that Eden had resigned. I must confess that my heart sank, and for a while the dark waters of despair overwhelmed me. . . . From midnight till dawn I lay in my bed consumed by emotions of sorrow and fear. There seemed one strong young figure standing up against long, dismal, drawing tides of drift and surrender, of wrong measurements and feeble impulses. My conduct of affairs would have been different from his in various ways; but he seemed to me at this moment to embody the life-hope of the British nation.

Now he was gone. I watched the daylight slowly creep in through the windows and saw before me in mental gaze the vision of Death.

What a noble tribute to a great English gentleman from the greatest of all our leaders. Anthony Eden was sometimes called the glass of fashion: it was also the mirror of honour, whatever our misgivings over the Suez policy—for which other members of his Cabinet were hardly less responsible, among them Harold Macmillan, Selwyn Lloyd and R. A. Butler.

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Charles the Bold: a battle in the snow

## Bureaucrats, Brussels and Charles the Bold

As the new EEC Commissioners in Brussels face up to the challenge of giving greater cohesion to the wayward Nine, an anniversary was celebrated which recalled a Europe sans frontières. On January 5, 1477, outside the walls of Nancy in Lorraine, Charles, last of the Valois dukes of Burgundy, known as "The Bold", was killed in battle. Within an hour of slaughter in the snow, the state of Burgundy, a private fief forming a chain through Europe from the Frisian islands to the Franche-Comté, had disappeared.

This multi-lingual phenomenon, linking francophone with teutonic culture, left behind it a political vacuum. The Hasburgs inherited and also obscured the great Burgundian tradition. Their maxim, *tu, felix Austria, nubes* (happy Austria, marry!), was inspired by the canny Burgundians. As long as dynastic marriages were the lodestar of ducal policy, the state prospered.

But the true heirs of Burgundy have become the bureaucrats of Brussels, for the concept of a multi-national policy was revived by the Treaty of Rome. There was no official representation from the Nine, however, at the anniversary ceremonies in Nancy. Mass was celebrated in the church of Bon Secours, which stands in the centre of the battlefield. An exhibition devoted to the battle is being organized at the Musée de Lorraine, and the Académie Stanislas, founded in 1750 as a literary and scientific society, held a seminar in the city to discuss the importance of the anniversary.

One is closest to Valois Burgundy in the backwaters of old Bruges or the small gothic towns of the rural south of the duchy, where the great wines of the region were beginning to establish themselves by the time the dynasty fell. And when the EEC Commissioners attend functions at the Hotel de Ville in Brussels they will be surrounded by examples of the golden age of Flemish tapestry commissioned by Charles the Bold.

Indeed, Brussels was one of the centres of rule of what was considered the most splendid court in Europe. As that great reporter de Commynes put it: "The House of Burgundy had enjoyed an uninterrupted career of peace and plenty. Like his contemporaries, he was at a loss to explain the sudden downfall of an apparently powerful state."

A British President of the Commission recalls an earlier alliance based on common enmity towards France and trade interests, and cemented in 1468 by the marriage of Charles to Margaret of York, sister of King Edward IV. The fate of Burgundy and York were to be fatally entwined in the events leading to the last duke's death and beyond, when

the last of the Valois Charles had a tall, thin, knight errant, unequal to the challenge of his provocative bet on him a coalition in attempting to stanch the chain of his power. Rhine, he, Emperor, the Duke and, above all, the mountaineers twice death knell of their mournful Charles should have lesson after Morat son. Last year they brated their army display, drill which served tors so well.

Charles found himself on two fronts to invade France, of his English allies. Although each as sign a separate p the consent of Edward allowed be bought off by 75,000 crow understandably, ro strate with his l and, de Commynes into a violent pas English, a language very well, began to ate the glorious ach his predecessors on of England."

### 3,000 stout archers

Edward did lead 3,000 archers soldiers". Three then formed the Nancy under a ca Colpa. De Commynes "They became us slowest of the gulf ing to their relief, killed by a cannon soldiers mutilated Governor had to s town to the Duke e."

It was Charles with recapturing d provoked the final rudent in cloth wearing on his belt fleur-de-lis which his position as a I dukes, he rode out enemies. The result gone conclusion. C was "not found giving rise to rum had survived and he would return tars, and bills of Burgundy were he time had elapsed.

The body, when only be identified I the bedchamber, s ment on which it w in Nancy before b marked by 1477 Cross of Lorraine stoned.

Today, an indust by the Romans has the hands of fishes culturists, from oyster beds to i farms. The change accidental or unli long ago Husley co the only hope for of the future was it agement of oyster in the development of breeding them ensure the safety o

"We in Alderney making the most of resources at a time and more people w the food wa oyster," added V helme. "Bred in the water around it can see a great fu Alderney reared o

Frank I

## All aboard to save the heritage of our steam age railway

The railways were the sinews of our Industrial Revolution. The Victorians recognized this, and employed their finest architects to design stations and other railway buildings, which still stand as handsome monuments of that age of steam and self-confidence.

Accordingly, British Rail today finds itself the slightly embarrassed heir of no less than 482 listed buildings, 42 scheduled ancient monuments and 271 stations in designated conservation areas. The show-piece railway stations, designed by Brunel, Tite (Nine Elms), Mocatta (the Brighton line), Cubitt, Dobson (Newcastle), and the rest form an even more characteristic architectural legacy from the Victorians than their town halls. The original railway companies chose particular styles for different lines: the spiky Gothic of the Canterbury line; the Jacobean of the Lewis to East Grinstead line; the Italianate of the Great Western. British Rail today, obsessed with aircraft, gives the impression that it would pull down all its historic buildings if it had the money, and replace them with nasty, trendy little airport boxes; presumably on the grounds that as it now costs almost as much to go by train as to fly, passengers might as well be processed through mean airport buildings in the corporate BR house style.

A parliamentary question in November elicited the information that of the 3,539 railway stations closed as a consequence of the Beeching report in 1963, 1,570 had been sold. This prompted Marcus Binney, the admirably inquisitive chairman of Save Britain's Heritage, to ask what had happened to the missing 2,000. His inquiries around the country reveal a conservation horror story of historic buildings being left to rot. As a result of his investigations Mr Binney says: "British Rail could do much more to find new uses for the fine old buildings that it no longer requires. There are many large stations (for instance, Shrewsbury) and hotels (St Pancras and Lime Street, Liverpool) too large for BR's needs, which remain half empty. They should be converted and let to other users to the financial benefit both of British Rail and its passengers, and to the architectural benefit of us all."

Marcus Binney has therefore prepared an exhibition of the fate of our railway buildings, as instructive as the one of the death of the English country house that he helped to organize at the Victoria and Albert. It is open at the Heinz

Gallery, RIBA Drawings Collection, Portman Square. The exhibition shows something of the diverse grandeur of our railway legacy. Newmarket old station, which any German schloss would be gratified to have as its orangery; Haymarket, Edinburgh, built in 1840 at the very birth of the steam age; the stately colonnade of Gosport. Another section illustrates the wicked loss we have sustained through demolition, abandonment, and vandal modernization to BR corporate style as witness to the destruction of the Euston arch; the Gothic grandeur of Birkenhead Woodside gone; Birmingham Snowhill about to go; Old Burntisland of 1842 ruinous.

Another, less melancholy section shows how with a little imagination disused railway buildings can be re-employed and preserved for new uses, now that steam is no longer king: Monmouth and Maldon stations make fine pubs; Cockington, Yorkshire, has been converted into an indoor football pitch and sports centre; Shenton station has become an interpretation centre for the Battle of Bosworth; one small station has been converted into a private steam bank for only 75,000 dollars and much of the old railway furniture, including roll-top desks and antique benches, has been preserved for modern use.

Marcus Binney says: "A few of these railway buildings are good enough to be preserved as ancient monuments in their own right. There should now be an attempt on a national scale to find new uses for the stations that are redundant and will be declared redundant by future cuts". What he says so obviously makes good economic and conservationist sense that in normal circumstances there would be no hope of those in authority paying any attention to it.

Fortunately our economic crisis now conspires with conservationist arguments to make it fully in squander any more of our rich heritage of railway buildings.

Philip Howard



The massive splendour of Suffolk's Newmarket Old station.



Photograph by Harry Kerr

## Sportsview

### The Stock answer for football

If it is not in mortals to command unending success, at least something attempted, something done occasionally earns a night's repose. This is reward few have deserved more than Alec Stock. Until the cards were recently shuffled at boardroom level at Fulham—which led to his dignified withdrawal from the scene because he felt he could no longer contribute—Stock held the distinction after 31 years as various levels of being the longest-serving contemporary manager in the Football League.

Next came success with Queen's Park Rangers whom he took from the third to the first division in successive seasons to equal the feat of Charlton Athletic in the 1930s, achieving on the way the unique double of winning the Third Division Championship and the Football League Cup in 1967.

To be a football manager is to be a leaf at the mercy of every passing wind. Next came gusts which blew him to Luton Town and finally to Craven Cottage where a happy relationship under the chairmanship of Tommy Trinder was crowned when Fulham reached the Cup Final of 1975 for the first time.

Now the book is snapped shut. But it need not gather dust on a shelf. "I may have cut the odd little notch on the tree in my time," he said, wistfully watching the snowflakes drifting outside. "I may have developed players like Rodney Marsh, Malcolm Macdonald and Phil Woosnam, and brought Bobby Moore, Marsh, and George Best to Fulham to

entertain. But I have left no telling footprints in the sand like Herbert Chapman, Arthur Rowe or Alf Ramsey, all of whom did something original. Their defensive centre-half, push-and-run style, and wingless wonders respectively are now part of history." Yet he bows to no one in his love for the game.

Born in Somerset of a mining family, sport has been Stock's abiding interest from his earliest years. Serving operationally in tanks during the war to reach the rank of captain, he recalls those days with affection and gratitude.

"It was both delightful and devastating and quite the best part of my education. That tank mob was a cavalry crowd—yeomanry and all that. And there I was, a miner's son among the upper classes with a fearful inferiority complex. Two subalterns with me were Alistair Hetherington, later Editor of *The Guardian*, and Dick Courage, of the brewing company."

"I learned also that you do your best work when losing, something that was brought home to me later in football." Thus did the wings spread of a man who joined Charlton in 1936 at three pounds 10 shillings a week with a £10 signing-on fee, and a job on the ground staff for his unemployed father at £3 a week.

With all the knowledge garnered over the years Stock still remains flexible in his views. They gush forth like a tap turned on to the full. "I believe we have destroyed our national game by sacrificing wingers and inside forwards of the old type. I've always tried to play 4-2-4 and never minded losing a few games to retain those strong points in the cause of entertainment. These days I believe the man on the terrace is given a game he doesn't want and doesn't even understand."

"There has been a deterioration, too, in the boardroom. Everyone wants instant success; fear of defeat is in the air and there are precious few managers bold enough to try to beat the field."

"Our coaching system also is nothing but a sausage-machine providing the same end product, while our top administrators overconscience it would seem, of the world, appear to have deserted the domestic scene—to some extent. Reams of propaganda have now taken the place of personal contact. But I still believe British football the best."

If he were king for a day what would be his first act? "See to it that the experience of men like Stanley Cullis, Joe Mercer, Bill Nicholson, Ted Drake and one or two others are not wholly lost to the game. Football needs them at this moment."

Geoffrey Green

## Tucking into the new cheap take-away of oysters and chips

"It's a very remarkable circumstance, sir," said Sam Weller, "that poverty and oysters always seem to go together". It is unlikely that Sam was aware of his remarkable perspicacity, for if the oyster farmers of Alderney are any judge of eating habits dictated by forever rising food prices, the return to oyster eating as a cheap supplement to the family's diet is only round the corner.

Such a change in the national diet, however, could hardly claim any novelty value, for up to the twentieth century oysters were cheap and plentiful and costing as little as 4d a dozen, were eaten freely by the poorest families in Britain. Only their subsequent scarcity elevated them to the ranks of the luxury foods.

But today, the escalating price of fish and the growing reluctance of housewives to buy it has driven the oyster fish and chip shop proprietor to

look about him for cheaper substitutes to sell with his sizzling but expensively priced chip potatoes.

The most successful saviour to date has been the chip in batter has been the chip in batter, but if some weather-beaten Alderney faces can read their tidal flows, Mr Chip's roving eye has already alighted on the more succulent, saucy shape of Miss Gigas, the fast maturing Pacific oyster.

Noting the almost insatiable demand for oysters in France and Spain, the Alderney growers have now established themselves firmly in the lee of Fort Raz, an old Victorian strongpoint refurbished and re-occupied during the last world war, where submerged washed and fed by the waters of the Race, a million gigas spat are growing apace.

The spat, no bigger than small seed on arrival from hatcheries in the United Kingdom, are kept in the seawater beds in finely meshed

sacks for four to five months until reaching a size of about 15 millimetres in diameter, when they are ready for being flown or shipped to the Continental oyster farmers for on-growing to table size.

"Oyster farming brings no one a fortune overnight," said Mr Tony Wolstenholme, a working director of the local industry now trading as the Ile de Raz Marine. "It can take from two to five years for an oyster to reach table size, and in that time you can lose everything."

When the company was first formed it lost 1,800,000 spat in one of the worst February storms the island had known. The same mountainous seas sank Ted Heath's Morning Cloud. The whole future of the company seemed to have been lost overnight.

"But we started again," said Mr Wolstenholme, "replanned the siting of the beds to ensure them as much protection as possible."

"The great incentive behind the project has been to provide the island with another viable local industry. Now I would like to see the young men involved make a go of the business. We have successfully completed our pilot project with a million spat and now we have only to arrange our first consignments to the French and Spanish growers."

Already the Gigas Growers' Association in Britain is promoting the sale of their oyster as a nutritious food supplement in place of fish and scampi. The gigas can also be made into a stew or used as an ingredient, and it can be kept in the home-freezer until wanted.

"The demand for oysters on the Continent is phenomenal," said Mr Philip Rice, a young co-director of the island company, "and with the native oyster becoming so expensive there is a great future for the gigas which is so much cheaper and every bit as tasty."

"For anyone wanting to compare prices, the native *edulis* can cost up to £6 and over a dozen in a good restaurant or oyster bar. The gigas can cost as little as £2, so any fish and chip shop could be selling half a dozen of them for £1, which is a helping of chips provides a good take-away meal."

One problem that faced the Alderney growers was the difficulty of handling the meshed sacks as they became heavier with the constantly growing spat. The wet and slippery spat provided only a painful finger hold and the beds are a good walking distance from the fort, but like most of their problems which have had to be overcome by sheer ingenuity, the hardship was solved by the purchase in a French village of shoulder yokes made for carrying milk pails.

Some idea of the past popularity of the oyster in Britain can be gained from old records which show that 36,000,000 oysters were landed on the

coasts of England in 1898, and that in World War they were the cheapest article of diet.

Today, an industry by the Romans has the hands of fishes culturists, from oyster beds to i farms. The change accidental or unlikely long ago Husley co the only hope for of the future was it agement of oyster in the development of breeding them ensure the safety o

"We in Alderney making the most of resources at a time and more people w the food wa oyster," added V helme. "Bred in the water around it can see a great fu Alderney reared o

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## SPORT

## Racing

## Bunker Hill's stamina may tell

By Michael Seely

The most crowded and informative day's racing to take place so far this season should lead to some crucial questions being answered by the end of this afternoon. Cheltenham Gold Cup candidates will be seen in action in both the Embassy Handicap Steeplechase at Haydock Park and also in the Fullwell Steeplechase at Kempton Park. Shalimar and Decent Fellow, at present first and second favourites for the Triumph Hurdle, should have little difficulty in winning their respective events, the first division of the Walton Novices' Hurdle at Kempton and the Cigar Novices' Hurdle at Haydock Park.

More night should be shed on that annual enigma, the Schweppes Gold Trophy, at Haydock. The £500 Embassy Handicap Steeplechase has drawn a high-class field headed by Pat Muldoon's smart hurdler, Sea Pigeon. At Kempton, the £500 Embassy Handicap Steeplechase will have its main test in the Motorway Handicap Hurdle.

In spite of the fascinating race at Kempton, pride of place must go to the eighth running of the Embassy Steeplechase at Haydock. No Irish invader has succeeded in capturing this trophy since Colebridge in 1972, but this afternoon I am taking Bunker Hill to win from Border Incident, Tied Cottage, and Master H.

Bunker Hill, trained by Adrian Maxwell in County Limerick and owned by an American, Thomas Davis, was a smart hurdler last year and has been first past the post in his three races over fences this season. Although he was disqualified for interference after defeating Siberian Sun at Leopardstown recently, Bunker Hill met Bannow Rambler, whom he met at the first hurdle, in a tight race in the Fullwell Steeplechase at Kempton Park. Shalimar and Decent Fellow, at present first and second favourites for the Triumph Hurdle, should have little difficulty in winning their respective events, the first division of the Walton Novices' Hurdle at Kempton and the Cigar Novices' Hurdle at Haydock Park.

It is difficult to oppose Border Incident, who was heralded as the most brilliant hurdler since the late 1960s. But his career has been blighted by a tendency to break blood vessels and he was seen on only twice last season. After beating Snow Flyer easily as Ascot in October, Border Incident was not disgraced when unable to match Freezing Cold's turn of foot on good ground on the same course a month later.

On his most recent appearance, Border Incident was thought to be in need of the race, ran well when fifth under a big weight in the race won by Uncle Bryn at the same time. Freezing Cold's nervous expressiveness as more than satisfied. Lean Forward, third that afternoon, was made to look from Border Incident, Tied Cottage, and Master H.

## Flying Orchid looks fresh for a Warwick win

By Michael Seely

The trainer in form, Josh Gifford, can capture the Brook Bond Oxo National Handicap Steeplechase with Flying Orchid at Warwick today. But chief rival should be Prince Rock, whose owner and trainer, Michael Buckley and Peter Bayly, will also be flying to win the Embassy Hurdle with Stronibolus. Prince Rock, a fancied outsider for the Grand National, is a tough and consistent customer who has won twice and been placed second on two occasions in his last five outings. At Cheltenham in December Flying Orchid overcame Prince Rock by a neck in a desperate battle with Stronibolus. Prince Rock is 2lb better treated at the weights this afternoon, but has since been soundly thrashed by Stronibolus in the same event.

Flying Orchid may be the fresher horse this afternoon and should be too good for Prince Rock. Flying Orchid has run well in the past, but has been soundly thrashed by Stronibolus in the same event. Flying Orchid may be the fresher horse this afternoon and should be too good for Prince Rock. Flying Orchid has run well in the past, but has been soundly thrashed by Stronibolus in the same event.

The best handicapped horse in the Warwick Thousand Guineas Hurdle, would seem to be Linsky, who chased home Modesty Forbids at Kempton in December. Modesty Forbids has since won twice at

## Motor racing

## Brazilian fastest but Hunt is challenging

Interlagos, Brazil, Jan 21.—Carlos Pace, of Brazil, delighted his home crowd and the Brazilian team when he put up the fastest lap time in the first official practice today for Sunday's Brazilian Grand Prix here. With a time of 2min 30.57sec, Pace was almost a second ahead of the West German, McLaren driver, Jochen Mass, who recorded 2min 31.58sec. Mass's team colleague, the world champion, James Hunt, of Britain, was third fastest in 2min 31.64sec.

Clay Regazzoni did well to score the fourth fastest time in his Eastern European team, but drivers for Ferrari, his former team, Carlos Reutemann was fifth in the practice list, and the other drivers were in the former world champion, Niki Lauda, of Austria, trailed in twelfth place.

The South African driver, Jody Scheckter, winner of the first grand prix this year in Argentina, finished in eighth place, ahead of Emerson Fittipaldi, of Brazil, in a Cooper.

Pace said later: "This is a good result, but I should improve this afternoon in the second practice. We are going to change the gear ratios, but otherwise the car is running well." Pace said he was completely fit now, but narrowly lost the Argentine Grand Prix after being affected in the closing stages by the great heat.

Hunt, who suffered slight poisoning earlier in the week, was still not feeling very good, but he said, "I'm in good luck, adding 'It's a improvement on Buenos Aires'."

With sweltering heat problem, the stamina of and the reliability of the cars are the likely keys to success.

Tormenting rain disrupted official practice earlier this But with the rain easing, temperatures having dropped to 25 degrees centigrade, teams are hoping that the in the weather will persist after the race.

## Kempton Park programme

1.0 WALTON HURDLE (Div 1: 4-9-0; Novices: £1,013: 2m)	
109	Shalimar (C.P.) H. Price, 11-5
110	Decent Fellow (C.P.) H. Price, 11-5
111	Border Incident (C.P.) H. Price, 11-5
112	Freezing Cold (C.P.) H. Price, 11-5
113	Lean Forward (C.P.) H. Price, 11-5
114	Uncle Bryn (C.P.) H. Price, 11-5
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1.30 HAMPTON HURDLE (Handicap: £721: 2m 40yds)	
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## Haydock Park

[Television (BBC 1): 1.15, 1.45, 2.15 and 2.45 races]	
1.15 BRISTOL HURDLE (Novices' handicap: £558: 2m)	
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## PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Insurance brokers

## More protection proposed for policyholders

This week the Government published its ideas about the regulation of brokers, agents and others who sell insurance—to give some protection to the insurance buying public.

Over the past few years it has tightened up on insurers in a variety of ways: and, for the individual, there is a "safety net" provided by the Policyholders Protection Act for many types of policy, if a company should run into financial trouble.

But, so far, anybody can call himself an insurance broker, adviser, consultant, or whatever, and sell you insurance—however little he knows about the subject and however little integrity he may have.

The Government proposes to tackle the subject in two phases. First it would like only those meeting certain standards to be called "insurance brokers": they would be registered.

Then it hopes to tackle the difficult problem of agents,

making them at all times the responsibility of the company for which they act. In this way, it hopes to achieve the position where the only people allowed to sell insurance for pecuniary gain would be "registered" brokers, insurance companies and their employees, together with agents of named insurance companies (or of registered brokers) working within the terms of their agency.

State licensing of brokers has been ruled out on the grounds of cost and lack of suitable expertise available to the Department of Trade, and so, in principle, the insurance brokers look like getting their own way, by having their own self-regulating body—as was suggested in a consultative document drawn up by the British Insurance Brokers' Council, representing four of the leading organizations.

Mr John Page, who won first place in the ballot for private members' Bills, has presented a Bill "to provide for the registration of insurance brokers and the regulation of their professional standards, etc." The Government has said

that, in principle, it is willing to support such a Bill provided there is full public consultation on the scheme proposed before the title "insurance broker" is reserved to registered brokers.

Written comments on the Government's proposals should be in the hands of the Insurance Division of the Department of Trade by the end of March. If necessary, they can be taken into account in the later stages of the Bill.

There will be plenty of problems in setting the standards for brokers and the chances are that the system will not be perfect when first introduced.

It is anybody's guess as to how many brokers will enter the standards for registration. Of the 9,000 or so firms currently calling themselves insurance brokers the British Insurance Brokers' Council estimated that 3,000 to 4,000 might wish to qualify.

My own view is that the Government is thinking in terms of higher standards than, so far, may have been envisaged by the British Insurance Brokers' Council, and all very well to think in terms

of independence, experience, good character and adherence to a code of conduct; but, if the public really is to be protected, what matters is the level of expertise available at counter level.

Will the staff of "registered" insurance brokers really be able to give good advice to those who come in off the street? The large buyers of insurance should be able to look after themselves and, in any event, the best brains in a broker's office probably will be detailed to look after them. Will there be sufficient expertise at the other end of the scale?

Most of those who call themselves insurance brokers hold themselves out as offering disinterested advice to clients about the cover most suited to their needs. Clearly, only those taking this stance will be expected to qualify for registration.

But, at the moment, there are a number of well-known names in insurance broking tied almost exclusively for certain classes of business to specific insurance companies or syndicates of underwriters at Lloyd's.

Obviously, these schemes offer favourable terms for the broker and may be generally competitive; but they are not necessarily the best for all those who are insured under them. This aspect needs attention if the term "insurance broker" is to gain respect in the future.

The Government has made various proposals about the agents of insurance companies. Curiously, it may be more difficult to regulate those who sell for insurance brokers, often on a part-time basis for a share of the commission and by no means always with an agency agreement.

Sometimes, those in this position are of value to brokers on account of those whom they know rather than their knowledge of the insurance markets. Certainly, this is a point which needs to be settled.

The broking aspect may be tackled first by legislation leaving the question of agents until a later date. Once the few thousand insurance brokers meeting the required standards have been registered, there will be many thousands of organizations and individuals

selling insurance under a variety of names (although, at that stage, not allowed to call themselves "insurance brokers").

The Government's view is that the best way of controlling those agents is to make them all (ranging from building societies to some of the car dealers which companies are rash enough to appoint as agents) the responsibility of the company for which they act. It suggests that a policyholder would be able to proceed directly against the responsible insurance company—provided the agent had not acted outside the terms of his appointment.

Would this solve the position where an agent, in selling a life policy, verbally says that it will help when the policyholder needs a mortgage—a loan which would be forthcoming from the insurance company—when, in fact, that is quite untrue. I suspect a company could wriggle out of that one.

Also, the policyholder could suffer if the agent acted outside the terms of his appointment, despite the fact that the agent would be committing an offence.

Clearly, putting the onus for agents on the shoulders of the companies is a somewhat unsatisfactory compromise, but it is a difficult problem. In public (although perhaps not always in private), many companies talk at length about their selection procedures and their care in the appointment of agents. Such companies feel that a fairly small degree of tightening up on their part will be necessary.

Once, therefore, brokers get registration, they will be able to bang the drum and say that they are meeting tough standards. It should bring them business. But there are areas of the country where the small part-time agent will still have an important part to play (despite his apparent lack of knowledge) simply because it would not be economic for a broker to operate there.

In the long-term it seems as though the Government would like to see some regulation of the standards of agents; but that could prove as elusive as the crack of gold at the end of a rainbow.

John Drummond



Mr. John Page MP Government is willing to support his members' Bill on the regulation of insurance brokers.

## Round-up

## Interest rates • Solar Life's debut • Unit trusts' progress

Interest rates are coming down and faster than most people would have expected. Yesterday's three-quarter point cut in minimum lending rate brings it to 13½ per cent against the 15 per cent crisis level of last October.

The gilt-edged market had been going at a half point cut, and was inclined to attribute the additional quarter point drop to plentiful overseas interest in the Treasury bill tender—more evidence of how London's high rates are attracting the attention of the world now that the money left in the pound seems to be over.

Gilts have been discounting a fall in rates, particularly at the shorter end, and yesterday's reaction was muted, perhaps surprisingly so, given that the market had spent the day waiting for the announcement of a "tap" aimed at controlling the short end of the market, just as last week's £125m gilt-edged issue was designed to curb exuberance at the longer end.

But that may have been because, by the time the fact that there would be no short tap was known, it was late in the day for continental interest—and there isn't all that much institutional money left in London for investment these days.

After the orgy of recent buying, the Bank of England and the Government Broker may be giving the market some time to digest, so, granted a steady pound, we won't have seen the end of the bull market yet.

With the minimum of fuss and publicity a new insurance company appeared on Monday. There were days in the past when small new insurance companies were two a penny. That's no longer so and the rarity of this new company becomes greater still when one learns that its parent is one of the most august life offices in the country.

Enough of the suspense. Sun Life, established in 1810 and noted today for its traditionalism, has entered the ranks of the unit-linked field with a brand new company called Solar Life. (The first choice of name was Apollo, but that apparently has been preempted by a broking firm.)

All the main life offices are involved in unit-linked business (as Sun Life was historically when it experimented with Sun Life Charterhouse) but most of them do it through the medium of the existing organization.

The big and glowing exception is the Prudential. Its subsidiary Vanbrugh Life—based in London and run by Pru in one of the several rescue operations in 1974—has become a very substantial company in the field.

If you believe that linked business and in particular single premium bond business will continue to grow, then it makes much sense to create a new marketing organization behind your product. Others, as well as Sun Life, have looked enviously at Vanbrugh's growth record.

It is no accident that Peter Pummell, the manager appointed to Solar, is a marketing man rather than insurance technician. After discussing its en-



Peter Pummell, manager of Solar Life: a new identity for Sun Life's unit-linked business.

byronic plans with consultants, Sun Life came down heavily in favour of "finding a new identity" and, adds Mr Pummell, "going through brokers only".

It has taken three months only—"much quicker than Sun Life has ever been used to"—comments Mr Pummell—to get Solar's administration off the ground. And an exceptionally flexible system has been devised. Even so, the target launch date of January 1 proved impossible to meet.

However, since news of the new event began to reach brokers on Monday, enquiries have been pouring in. "They welcome one of the giants coming in," says Mr Pummell. Certainly the climate, where security and consumer protection are given higher priority than whizz-kidney, must favour the launch of Solar, with its impeccable parentage.

Of course, no new company can be better than its products (as Solar's parent is Sun Life Assurance Managed Funds—a commission rates despite the fact that it is a new company). It is offering three contracts including a single premium policy and a contractual savings scheme, which can be linked to any of five types of property, managed, equity, fixed interest or cash.

The investment management will be with the same team which looks after the Sun Life Assurance Managed Funds—specialist products for pension funds—which has outperformed all other similar managed funds over both a one and three year period.



During 1976 net new investment in unit trusts was £167m, with the pattern of investment following closely stock market performance. As the table shows, net sales of £144m in December compared with £5m in October.

The unit trust industry managed to boost the value of its funds under management—just during 1976. At the end of 1975 these were valued at £2,512.4m. Twelve months later the figure had risen to £2,543m, a modest enough gain of £31m, but positive at least compared with the 4 per cent drop in the FT All-Share index.

Not that one can usefully compare the two movements, because the unit trust increase in value also includes capital injection as new unitholders appear. The actual decline in the number of unitholders, down from a high of 2.4 million at the end of 1970 to 2.12 million at the end of last year can also be misleading. It fails to take into account the number of people who hold unit trust indirectly through the tax-efficient linked life assurance vehicle.

## High income portfolio

## Good yield, security, spread and growing income

With interest rates unlikely to hold their present heights much longer, those who want to invest for income for the future are doing so now. And with this in mind we are this week starting a new portfolio, the object of which is, with certain qualifications, to provide the maximum possible return on capital.

Obviously this is likely to be of most interest to people who are supplying the luxuries, or perhaps even the necessities of life out of the income on a fairly small capital sum. But the principles are the same for anyone whose savings whose first priority is income now.

Our search for maximum income will be qualified in two important respects. First, what we are looking for is the highest income commensurate with a reasonable degree of safety. It is possible, but some of the stocks at prices which will give a gross annual return of over 20 per cent.

But the size of the return is to a large extent a measure of the safety or, in this case, the lack of it of the investment which provides it. And there is no point in investing £5,000 for a return of over £1,000 a

year if the income and capital alike have gone down the drain within six months. So it isn't simply the size of the yield which will determine our choice of investment. It is, however, possible to go too far the other way, for impeccable security generally means small opportunities. So we are going to round this problem by splitting our portfolio (a notional £15,000) up into five holdings of £3,000 each, thereby spreading the risks associated with any one choice.

This way, too, we can satisfy the second important qualification to the desire to maximize income now, which is, that some provision should be made for growth of income in the future. After three years of galloping inflation, the reasons are obvious enough: the problem is how to set about it.

For the only form of investment which offers the possibility of a consistently rising return is the equity, and the expectation of higher returns is reflected in higher prices (and thus lower yields) now. In effect, providing for an element of income growth

local developing society, rather than the merely negative approach of preventing itself from causing harm to its neighbour, individually and collectively.

It was at this juncture that my friend, who is perhaps more sensitive to such issues than to the subtleties of tempering the wind to the shorn lamb, electrified his audience of senior managers by telling them bluntly what had to be the guiding principle behind this subsidiary's behaviour among the local national population. Love, he said, love!

There was a horrified silence. Love is not widely regarded as being what makes the world go round when it comes to multinationals and the reactions of his audience polarized the individual members into four precise and bristling camps.

In the first category were those who were so disgusted that they had to fight back the impulse to get up and walk out, totally unable to take so blasphemous a statement against all the hallowed concepts of Mammion.

The second group were deeply embarrassed and sat there

Fixed interest portfolio		Running yield %
	Price	
Treasury 15½% 1998	£110	14.1
Brit Leyland 8% unsec loan 1998-03	£39½	20.2
Turner & Newall 12½% unsec loan 1995-00	£77½	15.1
Tst Hs Forte	123p	9.2
Grattan Warehs	84p	8.7

will mean that the aggregate initial yield on our portfolio will be lower than it would be otherwise; but we should gain in the long run.

Paradoxical though it may sound, it doesn't make sense for those who want a high money income from their investment to invest for income alone. This is because of the tax position, which ensures that the greater part of a high unearned income goes straight to the Inland Revenue.

The definition of "high" is, of course, a difficulty because it

depends so much on individual circumstances. But if we take a married couple short of retirement age with no income other than the return on their investment and no tax reliefs other than their personal allowances, then their marginal rate of tax will be 30 per cent before their gross income tops £3,000 and over 50 per cent once it tops £5,000.

This is because in addition to basic rate tax they will have to pay an investment income surcharge of 10 per cent on taxable income of between £1,000 and £2,000, and 15 per cent on the rest. This does not, of course, mean that such a couple should not invest for a high return once their taxable income tops the £1,000 mark. But it does mean that they should soon start thinking in terms of capital gains (taxable at 30 per cent) and preferably taxable gains on gilts (exempt from tax if you hold them for more than a year and a day).

The position for those who are of retirement age is, fortunately, rather less onerous. This is primarily because their personal allowances are higher (£1,555 for a married couple)

and partly because they do not start paying the 10 per cent investment income surcharge until their taxable income tops £1,500, although once it tops £2,000 they are on a par with everyone else, with the surcharge at 15 per cent.

Still, that means that a retired couple, even if they have no tax reliefs other than the personal allowance, will only be paying basic rate tax on the income from £15,000, so that in their case it is certainly worth rucking the money away now for the highest possible return.

The five-fold split that we are planning on our £15,000 portfolio takes in a gilt (for absolute security), a couple of loan stocks (for maximum income), and two equities (to provide for income growth in the future).

For our gilt we are choosing Treasury 15½ per cent, 1998, now selling at £110 (so that we shall have to take a small loss on our capital sum, if we hold it to redemption), and yielding a flat 14.1 per cent.

For our loan stocks we are going, on the one hand, for the British Leyland 8 per cent unsecured loan stock 1998-03, now

standing at just short of a dividend, for a run of just over 20 per cent on the other the Tst Hs Forte, which is now selling at 123p, offering a running over 15 per cent.

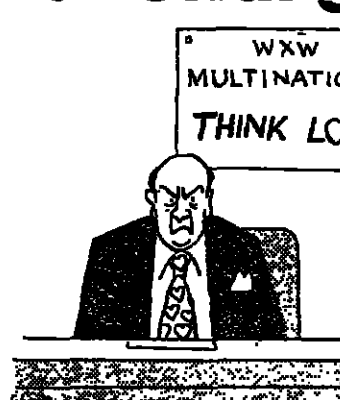
The British Leyland obviously, provides an of risk, but we think the government-owned Newall 12½ per cent unsecured loan stock 1995-00, which offers a running over 15 per cent.

Our shares, however, much more solid, far cause, since we are for income, we don't run any risk of a dividend. We have chosen Trust Fortes, now selling at 123p, offering a yield of 9.2 per cent, and Grattan Warehouses, a yield of 8.7 per cent.

The selection has a advantage in that the comes in fairly through the year with Leyland and the gilt in March, Grattan and Newall in June and Houses in July.

Adrienne Gle

## Is it love that makes the multinational go round?



brick red and unable to look at each other, fondly hoping that the ground would open up and swallow them, or preferably, swallow the speaker.

The third group felt exactly the same but suffered even more because they also felt guilty about feeling exactly the same.

A fourth lot leapt to their feet with a cheer and shouted out: "At last somebody has had the courage to say what I've been thinking for years!"

The discussion of the issue has not stopped since and the multinational may never be the same again.

So what is love as a business proposition? It is not simply a sort of fluffy charity—a random attempt to make the world a better place, for all the good it does, it is warm and human. However, at the other end of the scale, neither is it a public relations exercise designed to show the world how beautiful and concerned these big companies all are, and how misunderstood, poor darlings.

What we are talking about is a straightforward management exercise in reacting promptly and efficiently to an outside stimulus. The problem is that

as yet there are few people who are actually stimulated into action by the trigger concerned.

If capitalism is to survive at all, it has to develop so that it pays attention to the environment in which it is beginning to find itself. And that environment is not one conducive to the success of any enterprise, either public or private, that feels itself at liberty to restrict its planning merely to the attainment of its own primary business objectives.

Those who disregard this

message and omit to work out what should be their part-formed duty as corporate citizens will find that their primary business objectives will frustratingly not be reached; because workers and consumers and suppliers and governments and the public in general will tie them in knots, simply because they have not moved voluntarily and in their own time in the right direction.

The successful company of the 1980s is going to have to make corporate affairs and

corporate responsibility the major plank of its action. This is not as w improbable as it sounds one can think of a Q similarly principled firm success has derive, a spirit of cooperation, management and work.

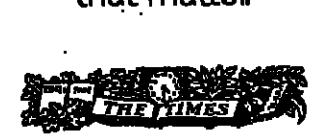
This new capitalism based on a spirit of tion between the pub whole—the world pub bond joining together, vidual and the corpor zens that make up grated society.

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Francis Kins

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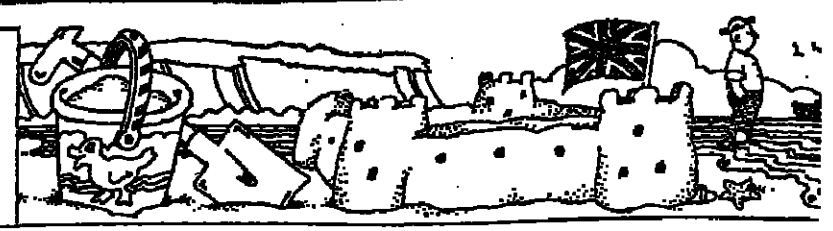












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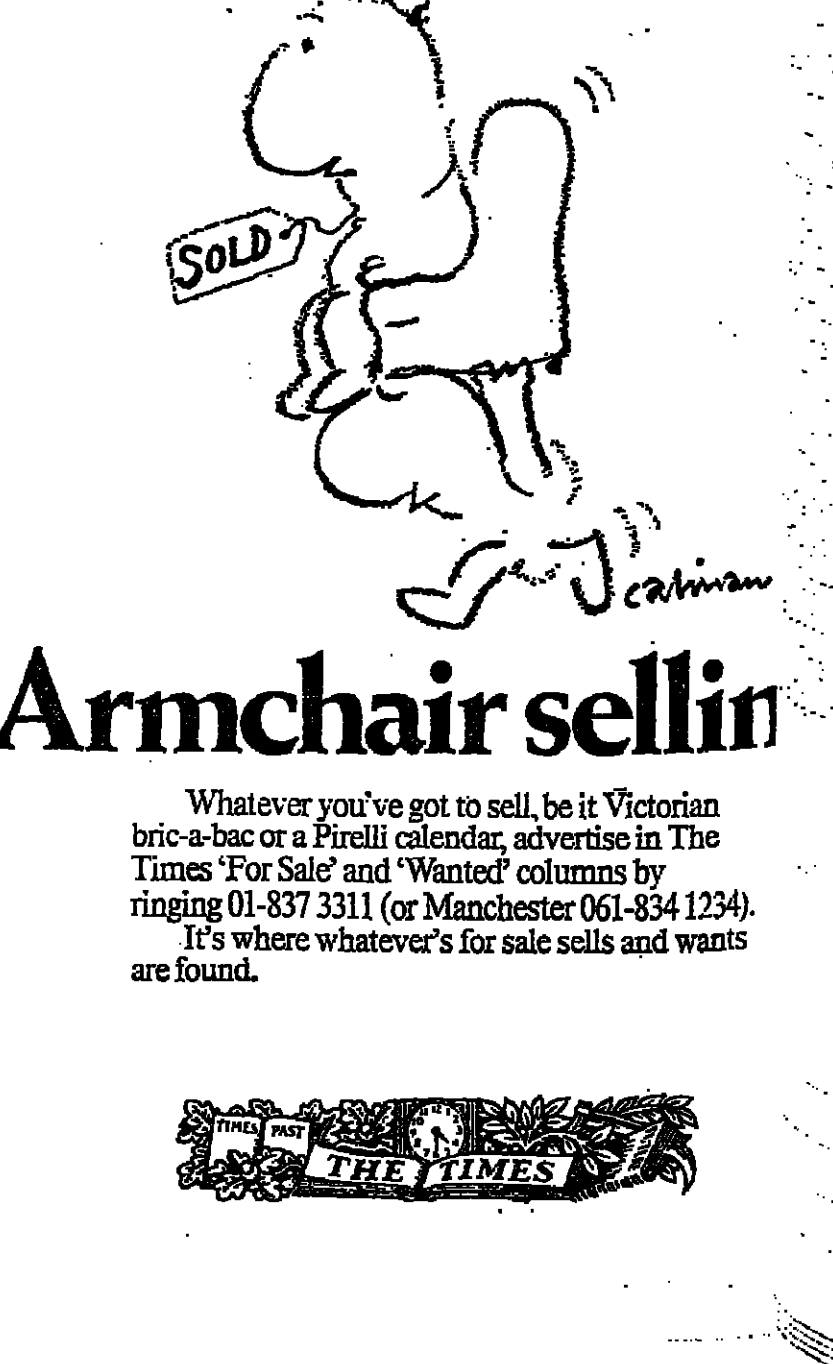
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